

13630

INDIA OFFICE

7 APR 1885

REPORT

OF

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 7th March 1885.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	700	17th February 1885.
2	"Tripurá Vártávana" ...	Comillah ...	.....
3	"Prem Pracháriní" ...	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
4	"Alok" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká" ...	Ditto ...	700	2nd March "
6	"Arya Darpan" ...	Ditto ...	102	27th February "
7	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto ...	12,000	7th March "
8	"Bártábaha" ...	Pubna ...	.....
9	"Bhárat Hitaishí" ...	Burrisal ...	450	
10	"Bhárat Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	625	
11	"Bardwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	296	3rd ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká" ...	Dacca ...	756	
13	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh ...	529	23rd February "
14	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca ...	425	1st March "
15	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	800	27th February "
16	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká" ...	Comercolly ...	500	28th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakáshiká" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
18	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye ...	200	25th ditto.
19	"Játiya Suhrid" ...	Calcutta ...	700	
20	"Medini" ...	Midnapore ...	500	
21	"Mussulman Bandhu" ...	Bhowanipore, Calcutta ...	.....	2nd March "
22	"Murshidabad Patriká" ...	Berhampore ...	437	
23	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto ...	.....
24	"Navavibhakar" ...	Calcutta ...	850	2nd ditto.
25	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	440	22nd February "

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BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
26	"Patáká"	Calcutta	27th February 1885.
27	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	900	27th ditto.
28	"Prántavási"	Chittagong	600	
29	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	600	27th ditto.
30	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah	.....
31	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	220	26th ditto.
32	"Sádháraní"	Calcutta	500	1st March 1885.
33	"Sahachar"	Ditto	500	25th February 1885.
34	"Samaya"	Ditto	1,500	2nd March 1885.
35	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	28th February 1885.
36	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca	345	
37	"Shakti"	Calcutta	.....
38	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	2nd March 1885.
39	"Sulabha Samáchár"	Calcutta	3,000	
40	"Surabhi"	Ditto	700	3rd ditto.
41	"Udbodhan"	Ditto	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
42	"Dainik Vártá"	Calcutta	450	
43	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	225	3rd to 6th March 1885.
44	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	28th February & 3rd & 4th March 1885.
45	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto	625	26th and 27th February and 2nd and 3rd March 1885.
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto	520	3rd and 4th March 1885.
47	"Prabháti"	Ditto	1,000	2nd to 6th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
48	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....
49	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	5th March 1885.
50	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	28th ditto.
51	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	300	28th February 1885.
52	"Hindi Samáchár"	Bhagulpore	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jám-Jahan-numá"	Calcutta	250	27th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	100	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	250	
<i>Daily.</i>				
56	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	2nd to 7th March 1885.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar	.....
59	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
60	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack	250	14th February 1885.
61	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	17th ditto.
62	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto	116	12th ditto.
63	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	18th ditto.
<i>Monthly.</i>				
64	"Taraka"	Ditto	.....
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
65	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
66	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia	.....

POLITICAL.

RUNGPORE DIX
PRAKASH,
Feb. 26th, 1885.

THE *Rungpore Dix Prakash*, of the 26th February, says that many are of opinion that Russia is rapidly advancing towards India, and that the Government

Russia, England and India.

should be very cautious. Russia has an eye on India, and the English Government is doing its best to estrange the feelings of Native princes. The proposal to reduce the armies of these princes seems to be a very unreasonable one. If the princes intend to stand against the English, reduction of their armies will be of no avail. They will still be able to help Russia. But if they desired to stand by the English when the Russians invade India, there is no necessity for such a step. There are no good grounds to suppose that the princes will stand against the English. The Arms Act is a measure of no use if the natives are loyal; it is also of no use if they are not loyal. It will not help the English. The exclusion of natives from volunteer corps is a matter much to be regretted. But the matter that is to be most regretted is that in spite of the Queen's Proclamation a great distinction is made between natives and Europeans. In case of a Russian invasion the English should not entirely depend upon a few lakhs of European soldiers, but should depend more upon the loyalty of the natives than upon anything else.

2. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 27th February, infers from the statements made by General Soboleff that the civilized world is perfectly aware of the

Russia and England.

oppressions practised by the English in India, and that it has come to know that the English extort every farthing from the people. The people have to pay the Home charges, they have to pay European officers on an unprecedentedly high scale, and they have to take worthless things in exchange for food-grains. What is the Government doing for relieving the distress in Beerbhoom? It spends very nearly the entire revenue for the benefit of Europeans, but when there is distress in the country they appeal to wealthy natives for help. The writer thinks that General Soboleff is wrong when he says that people will desert the English as soon as the Russians proclaim the independence of India. The people are loyal. With all their faults the English are liked by the people. All that they want is that the English should at this time send some rulers as good as Lord Ripon.

PRAJABANDHU,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

3. The *Pratikár*, of the 27th February, says that the Russians are determined to advance up to the frontiers of India. But the English have made a treaty

The boundary question.

with the Amir, and will protect him from foreign invasions. It was at an evil moment that the Government entered into this engagement. It has landed the Government in a difficulty. The writer thought that the English Government had come to an arrangement with Russia on the subject of the boundaries before they sent out the Commission. But now it appears that nothing of the kind was done. The Commission waits for the arrival of the Russians, and the Russians do not come. It cannot determine the boundaries itself, for then the Russians will not respect them. It cannot come back, for then it will lower the Government in the estimation of the people of Asia. The Government has of its own accord placed itself between the horns of a dilemma by sending out the Commission without coming to an understanding with the Russians.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

Russia knocks at the western gate of India, and France knocks at the eastern. Never was the Government of India reduced to a more pitiable plight than at the present moment. But it is a matter of great satisfaction to have a ruler like Lord Dufferin at such a crisis.

4. The same paper says that the great powers of Europe want to see England involved in a great and hazardous enterprize in order that they may avail them-

The Soudan war.

PRATIKAR.

selves of the opportunity to compass their own ends. No sooner is England involved in the affairs of Egypt than Germany brings forward her scheme of colonisation, Russia pushes on her outposts to the very gate of Herat and France takes up the cause of Theebaw. Whatever may be the difficulties of England in other parts of the world, the defences of India should be complete. No arms and ammunitions are necessary for the defence of India. If the people are contented, the English can very well pooh-pooh the idea of a foreign invasion. Will the English ever take this advise and try to make the people happy?

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

The Soudan War.

5. The *Education Gazette*, of the 27th February, says that the Mahdi is very powerful, and very popular in the Soudan. He never feels the want of arms and ammunition. The ultimate success of the English in this war is sure. But that success is to be very dearly bought. There is no knowing what it will cost in men and money. The writer does not understand what would be the gain of the English if they succeed, except that they would wreak their vengeance on the Madhi.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

Russia.

6. The *Sahachar*, of the 27th February, says that from the movements of Russia it appears that she eagerly covets Herat. Russian politics is becoming incomprehensible. Under these circumstances, the Amir should not sit silent. The English Government should not directly interfere in the matter, but should give such instructions to the Amir as are necessary.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Feb. 28th, 1885.

The Soudan War.

7. The *Gramvartā Prakāshikā*, of the 28th February, says that the Mahdi should be severely punished for what he has done. The English should avenge themselves upon him. But the writer does not think that in order to wreak vengeance on the Mahdi, much blood should be shed.

SAMAYA,
March 2nd, 1885.

The reception of the Amir of
Cabul.

8. The *Samaya*, of the 2nd March, hears that the Amir of Cabul is anxious to visit India. The writer does not understand why he should be anxious all of a sudden to leave Cabul and to come to India.

SAMAYA.

The Mahdi.

9. The same paper says that there is no difficulty in declaring the Mahdi as the Ruler of the Soudan. The Mahdi cannot be considered either as wicked or as cruel. He is trying to liberate his countrymen from the Turkish and the Egyptian yoke. The people of the Soudan are devotedly attached to him. There is nothing to gain by fighting with the Mahdi. England will show her magnanimity if she makes the Madhi King of the Soudan. But if she crushes the Mahdi, and places the country again under the Egyptian rule, she will lose her high position in the estimation of the world.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 2nd, 1885.

Russia and Afghanistan.

10. The *Ananda Bazar Patrikā*, of the 2nd March, remarks that if Russians can occupy Herat on the pretext that the inhabitants of that country would have Russian rule, neither the British Government nor any other European power will probably find it possible to object to their course. As similar pretexts, or when these failed, a plea of spreading civilization had been always put forth by Russia whenever she was bent upon making any conquests in Central Asia, the rumour that Russia was about to occupy Herat on some such plea was believed to be true by many persons. But now it is announced that the Heratees have decided to resist Russian advance. Russia will not probably occupy Herat now, but will station her troops somewhere near it, from which place she can appeal to the goodwill or fear of the Heratees. She will probably follow this course, but she may also, in consideration of changed circumstances, change her tactics.

It is no longer a contest with the savage tribes of Central Asia that Russia will now have to carry on, but a war with the Afghans, supported with all the resources of the powerful British Government. Russia has indeed at the present moment certain considerations in her favour if she decides upon invading Afghanistan. England, on the other hand, possesses certain advantages at present as regards the defence of that country. Russia can bring troops to Afghanistan far more easily than England, but, on the other hand, the Amir of Cabul is now a friend of the English, and will probably be supported by them in resisting Russian invasion. England will moreover have this advantage that in case of a war between Afghanistan and Russia she may help the former with men and money and not directly engage in the fighting, thus keeping her own troops and resources in reserve. Russia will thus have successively to fight with two powers—by no means an easy task. She may therefore think of establishing her ascendancy in Afghanistan by means of some stratagem. Russians can weaken the British Government by doing two things, or at least one of them, namely, gaining over the Amir to their cause, and inciting the people of India against the British Government. They may or may not succeed in the first, but how will they succeed in the second, if the British Government but treats the people of India, who are its subjects, in a generous spirit? It may again be that Russia is counting upon the possibility of England's soon getting herself involved in a war with some European power, and upon the opportunity which will thus be afforded her of entering Afghanistan.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 2nd, 1885.

11. The same paper remarks that Mr. Gladstone may not after all be held responsible for the death of General Gordon in Khartoum, considering that Lord Beaconsfield was not under similar circumstances held responsible for the death of an English officer in Afghanistan. But the consideration that the cost of the Soudan war is to be borne by England, while that of the Afghan war was thrown upon India, may lead the English people to judge of Mr. Gladstone differently. It behoves both Liberals and Conservatives of England to sink their differences at this crisis, and labour in concert for the welfare of the British Empire.

The Soudan war.

12. The *Navavibhakár*, of the 2nd March, says that Mr. Gladstone is distinctly saying that he will allow nobody to cross the Afghan frontier, and that he will do his best to fix the boundary of Afghanistan inclusive of Herat. The Russian Government has not refused to consent to this. It is natural that there should be some wrangling over the fixing of the boundary of a kingdom. The Russian member of the Delimitation Commission has gone to England to settle the dispute about the boundary. There is no reason for so much anger with him. He has not agreed with the English Government on one two points. He has referred the matter to his Government. The dispute will be soon settled. Both parties should show moderation. The common people in every country indulge in idle hostile talk. The common people of Russia are showing hostility to England as the common people of England are showing hostility to Russia. But the Russian Government has given no proof of hostility. The writer hopes that the boundary will be amicably fixed.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1885.

13. The same paper says that the Viceroy and the Amir of Cabul will meet at Rawalpindi to concert measures for removing the fear of Russian hostility. The writer says that Government should try to make the Amir still more friendly. If this is done, Government will become stronger, and the fear of Russian invasion will diminish. The writer has confidence in the diplomatic ability of Lord Dufferin.

Meeting between the Viceroy and the Amir.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 3rd, 1885.

14. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 3rd February, says that some narrow-minded Englishmen are writing articles in the columns of the *Times* and the

The Armies of Native Princes.

St. James's Gazette, with a view to have the armies of native princes reduced, because they consider these armies to be a source of danger to English rule in India. They do not wish that there should be native princes in India, and so they are always bent upon finding fault with them. They speak of the armies of these princes with a view to inspire the British public with fear. They do not for one moment consider that the existence of native princes is a source of strength to England. They are doing a great mischief by creating ill-feeling and want of confidence between the English rulers and the native princes at a time when harmony and co-operation are absolutely needed. These men are not the real friends, but the real enemies of the English. Russia is anxious to take possession of India. She is rapidly advancing towards it. She has the largest army in Europe, and her armies have received the best discipline. Unless the entire population of India co-operate heartily with England, it will be extremely difficult to stem the tide of Russian invasion. Government can of course increase the number of native soldiers, but the raw levies will be no match for Russian troops. Under such circumstances the native princes will be the best allies of England, and their armies should be properly trained. If these princes stand by England, no power can ever think of entering India. The princes are loyal. They never wish ill of England. The Mogul Emperors placed their confidence in them. If the English repose the same confidence in them, they will find that the princes are not wanting in loyalty.

SURABHI,
March 3rd, 1885.

15. The *Surabhi*, of the 3rd March, says that the Amir will pay a visit to the Viceroy in India in summer.

Russia and Afghanistan.

The writer says that it is true that it is the duty of England to help the Amir, but she should not engage in a war with Russia for his sake. The Viceroy should distinctly give the Amir to understand that though England is desirous of his friendship, she is not prepared to fight against Russia for his sake. Under these circumstances the Amir should be allowed to act as he pleases. If the Amir enters into a friendship with Russia, England should not quarrel with him. It is immaterial to England whether Afghanistan is independent or under Russia. England should not quarrel with the Amir or with Russia for fear of the latter.

PRABHATI,
March 4th, 1885.

16. The *Prabhāti*, of the 4th March, deprecates the idea of encouraging the Amir to provoke the Russians, for that will be interfering in other people's

The Boundary Commission.

quarrel. The English will not allow any other power to enter Afghanistan. But the conquest of Merv by the Russians has made a readjustment of the boundaries a necessity. The English should not quarrel with the Russians on the subject of these boundaries. Russia too is under the necessity of getting the boundaries of Turkestan amicably settled.

PRABHATI,
March 6th, 1885.

17. The *Prabhāti*, of the 6th March, says that the native princes are not wanting in loyalty. Whenever the English are in any difficulty they come

The armies of native princes.

forward with their contingents to help them, and still there are Englishmen who advise the reduction of the armies of these princes. If the English can repose confidence in the princes and people of India, there is nothing in this world which can shake their power.

PRABHATI.

18. The same paper says that there is a set of evil advisers of Government. They always advise Government to do things which are calculated to

Evil advisers.

estrangle the feelings of the natives. If the English are afraid of Russia,

they should try to strengthen their position at home. There is no good in going beyond the frontiers of India to court a quarrel.

BANGABASI,
Feb. 7th, 1885.

19. The *Bangabási*, of the 7th February, says that war is imminent between Russia and England. Russia was up to this time advancing slowly, but Sir Peter Lumsden has advised the Afghans to resist any further advance on the part of the Russians. The writer is afraid that there will be a general war in a short time. But the English have nothing to fear, as the government of Lord Ripon has deeply implanted the sentiment of loyalty in every native heart.

The Mahdi has got an excellent adviser in the person of Mr. Olivier Pain. The English will have much difficulty in conquering a ruler who has advisers like Mr. Pain and Generals like Osman Digma. The English will try issues with the Mahdi during the next winter. The Mahdi may harass the English during the summer, but he will not succeed in drawing them into battle. The English will ultimately succeed, but there will be some difficulty. By entrusting the defence of India into the hands of Indian troops the English can safely think of crushing the Mahdi and Osman Digma.

There are many Englishmen who advise the annexation of Upper Burmah. Lord Ripon's policy was one of peace, but it is not yet known what would be the policy of Lord Dufferin. An armed steamer has been sent towards the frontiers of Burmah, and the King has made a treaty with the French. The French are always anxious to monopolise the trade of the Eastern Peninsula, and so this secret treaty between France and Burmah is a source of great anxiety to the English. Russia has advanced very near Herat.

The Russians will meet the British Ambassadors at Zulfikar and at Pandjeh. There is no knowing what will be the result of the meeting. If Russia returns in a pacific mood there will be peace, if not, there will be war. Russia does not advance with a large army. There may yet be a delimitation. The interview with the Amir is a good stroke of policy. The display of the military resources of England will inspire the Amir with confidence and will prevent him from going over to Russia.

20. The same paper hesitates to believe in the stories about the misgovernment of Cashmere, as they generally come from European merchants who want to monopolise the trade of the country, and who therefore meet with opposition from the Maharaja. The English want to collect all the wealth of the world in the name of free trade. Their trade interests put the English to difficulties everywhere in Egypt, in Burmah, in Germany, they impel them to move about from island to island and to plant colonies in unknown Africa. The English should seek their interests with moderation, especially when they clash with the interests of all other nations.

BANGABASI.

21. The same paper suggests that the native princes should be invited to attend with their armies at the Durbar to be held at Rawalpindi for the reception of the Amir of Cabul. The display of the entire military resources of the country will inspire Russians with a sense of the greatness of the English power in India. The English have done well in bringing about this Military Durbar. It will serve a very useful purpose whether there be peace or war.

BANGABASI.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

22. The *Sansodhini*, of the 17th February, is glad to notice that arrangements have been made in the Court of Baboo Dinonath, the Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Chittagong, to provide pleaders with seats.

SANSODHINI,
Feb. 17th, 1885.

SANSODHINI,
Feb. 17th, 1885.

23. The same paper praises the speech of Lord Dufferin at the Trades' Dinner. The writer is glad to find a mention of the Deity in the speech.

Lord Dufferin.

SANSODHINI.

24. The same paper says that Europeans by their example have created a spirit of independence in this country. If they try to keep up that spirit they will earn the gratitude of the people. The ill-feeling between natives and Europeans is not for the good of any; it can be removed only if the English will wish to be loved instead of being feared.

The natives and Europeans.

SANSODHINI.

25. The same paper says that the municipalities of Bengal have got a new constitution. In order to ensure success they should not proceed in their old ways. The municipal work has now been transferred entirely to the public, and it is the duty of the Commissioners to teach the public the art of self-government. The writer therefore thinks that the public should be informed beforehand of the business to be brought forward before the Commissioners, and that it should also be informed of the result of their deliberations; that there should be rate-payers' associations in every town, and that the editors of local newspapers should try to give a wide circulation of what takes place in the meetings of the Commissioners.

The duties of municipalities.

SANSODHINI.

26. The same paper is glad to notice that the best possible arrangements were made for keeping order in the Sitakundu mela. The police officers did their work with great ability.

The mela at Sitakundu.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 22nd, 1885.

27. The *Paridarshak*, of the 22nd February, says that the coolie died undoubtedly from the effects of the kick administered to him by Mr. Glover. But Mr. Glover has been let off with a small fine. This does not augur well. Failures of justice shorten the duration of a government.

The Glover case.

PARIDARSHAK.

28. The same paper says that the English are as much despotic as the Mahomedans were. But the English are intelligent, while the Mahomedans were foolish. A Mahomedan violated the chastity of a woman, and the whole people condemned the Mahomedans as oppressors. But when an Englishman commits the same crime people say that it is the act of an individual, and that the intention of Government is as pure as ever. They do not understand that when all the individuals who compose Government are prone to oppression, Government cannot but oppress. An Englishman kills a native in a tea-garden. An English Judge acquits him. An English Viceroy and an English Secretary of State take no notice of this failure of justice. The Mahomedans were very unpopular, because they imposed the zezia on people professing other religions. But the English do the same thing by maintaining an ecclesiastical establishment for the benefit of the Christian population only, and still the English are not unpopular. The Mahomedans when they wanted money plundered rich merchants and thereby incurred unpopularity, while the English impose taxes on one pretence or another whenever the treasury is empty. The natives are living under subjection to a race of men who know how to throw dust into the eyes of the people while sucking their life-blood. That race has reduced India to such a condition that famine has almost become chronic in the country.

The English and the Mahomedans.

PARIDARSHAK.

29. The same paper says that Government has made many rules to restrain drunkards, but these rules are generally of no avail. Government wants revenue and revenue only. It helps to increase drunkenness. Famine is committing ravages in the country; increase of drunkenness at this time is sure to ruin the country absolutely.

Increase of drunkenness.

30. The same paper thinks that the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation Bill will soon become law. This will ruin the zemindars of Sylhet. The people of Sylhet should try their best to represent their grievances to Government.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 22nd, 1885.

31. The same paper says that the Education Commission has placed the people under very great obligation by drawing the attention to technical education.

PARIDARSHAK.

The Inspector of Schools in Assam has asked the head-master of the Sylhet Normal School to consult the teachers and the respectable inhabitants of Sylhet as to the best mode of imparting technical training to the people.

32. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that the affairs of the Habiganj mela have been greatly mismanaged. Those who were entrusted with the distribution of prizes have given them away without exercising proper descretion.

PARIDARSHAK.

33. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 23rd February, says that Messrs. Keswick and Company abused the native community, and the leaders of that community joined them. The Lieutenant-Governor abused the natives the other day, and what have the natives done to resent that abuse? In no other country of the world would the people have tolerated such expressions from their ruler. But India has fallen so low that the natives are anxious to please even such a Lieutenant-Governor. The writer does not understand how long it will take to awaken national life in India.

CHARU VARTA,
Feb. 23rd, 1885.

34. The same paper says that the interests of Hindus are identical with those of Mahomedans. It is therefore a matter of great regret that there should exist any ill-feeling between these two races.

CHARU VARTA.

35. The same paper observes that Sir Rivers Thompson has expressed his conviction that no cruelties were practised in the Presidency Jail, and has abused the *Statesman* for giving publicity to false statements. The constitution of the Commission of Enquiry led people to suspect that an attempt would be made to whitewash Mr. Beadon, and the result of the enquiry has confirmed these suspicions. It is not an easy matter to prove the guilt of a European. People believe that the statements of the *Statesman* had some foundation in fact. How can Mr. Beadon be acquitted on the charge of having illegally subjected the prisoners to the tortures of back hand-cuffs? How again would Rutton Das's death be accounted for? Government should adopt proper measures to remove these blots on the administration.

CHARU VARTA.

36. A correspondent of the same paper writes in terms of high praise of Mr. Badshah, the sub-divisional officer of Madaripore. The writer is glad that the Commissioners of the local municipality have elected him as their Chairman. Mr. Badshah is doing the work of the municipality with great ability, and in consultation with the Commissioners with whom he has great sympathy.

CHARU VARTA.

37. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 25th February, says that the Editors of the native newspapers were born to be abused. The writer does not understand how they can be said to have used strong language, when during the time of the greatest excitement they did not disgrace themselves by following the example of the Editor of the *Englishman* newspaper. The Editors of vernacular papers are often accused of exaggeration, but they do not get official publications, and have therefore to obtain news secondhand. Under these circumstances, it is not fair to bring the charge of exaggeration against them. The

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Feb. 25th, 1885.

vernacular papers have all of them proposed to Government that official publications should be sent to them.

HINDU RANJIKA,
Feb. 25th, 1885.

38. The same paper is glad to find that the Indian Association has published its remarks protesting against the speech of Sir Rivers Thompson at the Trades' Dinner. But that alone will not do. Meetings should be called in every part of Bengal to protest against the speech.

HINDU RANJIKA.

39. The same paper thanks Lord Dufferin for protesting against the attempt of the Ministry to throw the cost of the Indian contingent serving in the Soudan on India. The writer hopes that this time the people of India will not have to bear any share of the cost of the war.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 25th, 1885.

40. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th February, says that the reception of Lord Ripon in England. The reception of Lord Ripon in England. Lord Ripon was most enthusiastic. The description given by Lord Ripon of the policy he adopted in the government of India before the association will shew the people of England that he has increased the glory of the British nation by having adopted a noble policy.

SAHACHAR.

41. The same paper says that formerly officials tried to cry down the native newspapers by saying that they did not represent the public opinion and that the public were not led by them. Many officials do so even now; but, however contemptible they may profess to consider the native papers to be, every one of them has to respect the opinion of those papers. Mr. Justice West of Bombay has distinctly said that "the Indian press is gradually becoming a great power." Many Anglo-Indians have now come clearly to understand that native papers are becoming a great power. The officials should now bend before that great power. What one will be compelled to do some time after should be done without delay. If the officials quarrel with the native papers, they themselves will be injured and not the papers. For this reason the writer is sorry at the hostile remarks that are made by the Lieutenant-Governor upon native papers. He sees nothing but merit in the Anglo-Indian papers, and nothing but faults in the native papers. The Editor is not satisfied with the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion upon the vernacular papers expressed in the last administration report. His partiality to Anglo-Indians has made him blind to their faults. The Editor considers the statement that though the tone of both the native and the Anglo-Indian press was objectionable during the Ilbert Bill agitation, the tone of the former alone continues to be objectionable, to be contemptible, though it has been made by the Lieutenant-Governor. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot but be aware that the *Englishman*, the *Daily News*, the *Bengal Times*, and other Anglo-Indian journals have been all along abusing natives. The writer does not deny that strong language is sometimes used in the native papers. So long as a partial ruler like Sir Rivers Thompson remains Governor, the oppression by Anglo-Indians will not diminish, and such strong language will not cease to be used. So long as the Lieutenant-Governor does not learn to compare native papers with Anglo-Indian papers in an impartial spirit, his instructions to the former given in the administration report will not be followed.

SAHACHAR.

42. The same paper learns that during the rifle practice at Ballygunge the rifle practising ground at Ballygunge. the bullets often go out of the practising ground, and thus persons runs considerable risk of being wounded. The writer proposes that either the place should cease to be used as a practising ground or should be enclosed by high walls.

43. The same paper hopes that Mr. Croft will appoint Baboo Tarak Nath Sen, who is a really able and experienced officer, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Dacca, in the place of Baboo Dinanath Sen, who, it hears, will be appointed Inspector of Schools, Chittagong

Baboo Taraknath Sen.

SAHACHAR.
Feb. 25th, 1885.

44. The same paper says:—Even the secret enquiries made by Government about the cruelties in the Presidency Jail have proved that the Superintendent, Mr. Beadon, was guilty of many offences. He himself has had to admit that he tortured prisoners despotically and illegally. The offence which the criminal has himself admitted calls for severe punishment. Had he been hauled up before a Criminal Court severe punishment would have been awarded to him. But the guilty Mr. Beadon has been let off with a mild censure by Sir Rivers Thompson. In the suit the complainant *Statesman* has been found guilty. Such is the justice of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But the whole country is blaming the judge Sir Rivers Thompson, the Enquiry Commission, and Mr. Westmacott, the Inspector-General of Jails. The whole country is sorry that Mr. Beadon has escaped punishment. Every one is now uneasy owing to the apprehension that the oppression in the jails will increase after this. This is not desirable. The correspondent "Humanity" in the *Statesman* has now appeared in his own name. His name is Howatson. He has written courageously in the *Statesman* "that the prisoner Rutton Das died of the effects of the torture inflicted upon him by Mr. Beadon. He did not die of heat apoplexy. I can prove this if the case is tried by a law court." We earnestly recommend that Mr. Howatson should be prosecuted. Government should free itself of blame by prosecuting the man who is thus courageously blaming the Jail Superintendent and the Enquiry Commission, and is finding fault with the decision of the Lieutenant-Governor. Otherwise the whole country will always believe Government to be guilty.

Cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

SAHACHAR.

45. The same paper referring to the infliction of a fine of Rs. 200 by the Joint-Magistrate of Dacca upon Mr. Glover, who killed a coolie by kicking him, says that this is nothing but trampling upon justice. Will not this encourage Europeans in kicking natives?

The Glover case.

SAHACHAR.

46. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 26th February, is struck dumb at the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor, who encourages judicial officers who let off European murderers of natives with simple fine. The number of murders of natives by Europeans is ever on the increase.

The Glover case.

SAHACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 26th, 1885.

47. The members of the *Sadbháb Uddipani Sabha* of Rampurhat appeal through the medium of the *Education Gazette*, of the 27th February, to the charitable public to come to their aid in relieving the distress in Rampurhat. Out of 60 to 70 families in Mahimpur, a mile from Rampurhat, only five or six families are well off. The rest are suffering from the famine. The condition of the people of Barakarti Chunri is really deplorable. Poor people get no rice to eat. There is neither paddy nor rice in any house. They have eaten up plums and the leaves of kensari, a kind of pulse, which were never before regarded as articles of food. Many able-bodied persons have fled away from the village, leaving their houses empty behind them. The gomasta of the village states that out of 78 families resident in the village, 31 families are low class people, 23 families respectable Sudras, and 24 families Rajputs. The low class people are utterly destitute. The other classes are also in want. Many belonging to these classes have often to go without food and to live on one

Famine in Rampurhat.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Feb. 27th 1885.

meal a day. Many have sold off all their belongings. But they have nothing more to sell. They can work for wages, but who is there to employ them? The *Sabhá* has undertaken to help 125 persons.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

48. The *Pratikár*, of the 27th February, says that the Tenancy Bill as modified by the Select Committee will ruin the ryot completely. In previous Bills

The Tenancy Bill.

one-fifth of the produce was fixed as the maximum of rent. But under the present Bill rents can be enhanced to any extent. Occupation for twelve years will entitle a ryot to occupancy rights, but there is nothing to prevent wily zemindars from putting a stop to the growth of that right by transferring the ryot from one holding to another within these years. The writer hopes that the Government will not, by hastening the passing of the Bill, reduce the ryots to a helpless condition.

PRATIKAR.

49. The same paper says that the *Bangabási* and the *Sanjivani* have done good service to the country by publishing true accounts of the famine. Govern-

Famine in Bengal.

ment has given twenty thousand rupees to relieve the distress in Burdwan, but it takes no notice of the terrible sufferings of the people in Bankura and in Beerbhoom. Government has taken from the people a very large sum of money to create a Famine Insurance Fund. It does not look well therefore to be niggardly at this time of their distress.

PRATIKAR.

50. The same paper says that people are of opinion that the statements made by a correspondent of the *Statesman* about the cruelties practised in the

Cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

Presidency Jail are true. The Jail Commission and Sir Rivers Thompson consider these statements as exaggerated, and abuse the Editor of the *Statesman* for giving publicity to them. But people think that they are prejudiced in favour of their countryman Mr. Beadon. Sir Rivers Thompson cannot punish one of his countrymen. What he has said in order to whitewash Mr. Beadon is unworthy of a great ruler. He has made himself ridiculous by everything he has done as ruler of Bengal. The case of Mr. Beadon is no exception to the rule. Sir Rivers considers official censure an adequate punishment in this case. Glory to Sir Rivers! Blessed is his power of discrimination! Blessed is his love for his countrymen! If he says that Mr. Beadon is not an oppressor, if he does not punish him after obtaining such tangible proofs of his guilt, his rule is certainly a very despotic one. The public cannot help crying with the *Bangabási* that Sir Rivers Thompson is unworthy of the throne of Bengal.

PRATIKAR.

51. The same paper says that Lord Ripon in his speech at Leeds said that if the English could keep the natives of

Lord Ripon's speech at Leeds.

India contented and happy, they had nothing to fear from a foreign invasion. But if they could not do that they would simply open a door for intrigue. It was foolish to think of ruling two hundred and fifty millions of men with the sword. The writer says that these sentiments should be the cardinal doctrine of faith with those who come to rule India. Every word of this speech would be a source of strength to the Government.

PRABANDHU,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

52. The *Prāja Bandhu*, of the 27th February, says that

Mr. Baker rightly served.

Mr. Baker abused a young native at Tarakeswara on the occasion of the Sivaratri festival, and he was very severely beaten. Several Europeans came to his rescue, but several native youths took the part of their countryman. The Europeans were worsted and the natives disappeared.

PATAKA,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

53. The *Patáká*, of the 27th February, is glad that Government is

Government and the ryots of Madras who have been injured by the late floods.

eager to do all in its power to benefit the ryots of Madras who have suffered great loss owing to the late floods.

PATAKA,
Feb. 27th, 1885.

54. The same paper says that upon reading all the papers relating to the case, the Deputy Commissioner of Dibrugur has ordered that the planter of Golaghat who killed a native lad and was acquitted by the Assistant-Commissioner should be committed to the Sessions for trial. But the man has gone to Bombay. Will not Lord Dufferin take notice of the repeated failures of justice in Assam?

The planter of Dibrugur who killed a native lad.

55. The same paper is glad that an able native like Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukerjea has been appointed to act as Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division.

Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukerjea.

56. The same paper says that the arguments which the Assistant-Magistrate of Dacca has made use of to save Mr. Glover, who killed a native coolie, are very weak. Such arguments would not have been used if the labourer killed had been a European or if the homicide had been a native.

The Glover case.

57. The same paper pretends that it has found a Sanskrit book named *Gouranga Puran*, or the Traditions of the White, which contains the following principles:—(1) If a Bengali is killed by a white man, it is to be concluded that the native's spleen was ruptured. The white man should not be sentenced to death or imprisoned for it. He should be simply fined. The rupture of the spleen may include the rupture of the intestines also. (2) Capital sentence should not be passed upon a white man, even if he may have committed all offences. Nor should he be banished. But in some cases he should be fined. There is nothing more sinful than the killing of a white man. For this reason the ruler should never think of passing the capital sentence upon a white man. (3) All the fruits of the Indian tree or all the high offices should be enjoyed by Englishmen. The sinful blacks have no claims to them. (4) Those blacks who will enjoy small fruits owing to the favour of white men should always be trampled under foot. It is also distinctly stated that those advantages of the whites which are not mentioned in the book will be provided for by the Defence Association. The first and second principles are being constantly acted upon in Assam and other parts of the country. It will be sufficient to allude to the infliction of a fine of Rs. 200 upon Mr. Glover who killed a coolie to prove that such is the case. As for the third principle, it will be sufficient to mention that while more than one thousand Englishmen in Bengal are drawing a salary of Rs. 1,000 and upwards, only 13 natives draw such large salaries. A native, however competent, is not appointed Civil or Military Surgeon. Posts of Assistant-Surgeon carrying a salary of Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 are the highest posts in the Medical Department that natives can hope for. Dr. Payne has ruled that Assistant-Surgeons will not only be not promoted but will be dismissed if they do not succeed in departmental examinations. But Dr. Payne has exempted Englishmen who may be candidates for the post of Surgeon Major from the examination in which they had formerly to succeed in order to obtain that post, because many Englishmen could not succeed in passing that examination. The Assistant-Surgeons who have obtained petty posts through the favour of Englishmen are being, in this manner, trampled upon.

Partiality of Government officials towards Englishmen.

58. The same paper says that though the Enquiry Commission has distinctly said that "a real and solid progress has been made in the path of sanitary improvement," the *Pioneer* is saying that the Commission has found the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta guilty. No one is so skilled as the *Pioneer* in suppressing the truth. There is no knowing what the Lieutenant-Governor would have said if a native newspaper had acted as the

Anglo-Indians.

PATAKA.

PATAKA.

PATAKA.

PATA A.

Pioneer has done. According to the *Pioneer* Mr. Cotton is a wicked man and the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta are guilty. But it is of opinion that Mr. Beadon has come stainless out of the enquiry instituted regarding his conduct. The efforts made by a few Anglo-Indians to lay the axe at the root of self-government in India will be of no avail, because noble-hearted Englishmen in England sympathise with the sufferings of Indians and are anxious that a noble policy should be adopted in the government of India. How long will a few selfish and mean-hearted Anglo-Indians be able to oppose the progress of Indians after this ?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.
Feb. 28th, 1885.

59. The *Grāmavartā Prakāshikā*, of the 28th February, says that Mr. Justice Prinsep came in the course of his tour of inspection of the Civil Courts to Krishnagur. He is trying his best to prevent the further extension of the system of trial by jury. The writer is of opinion that such extension is not really liked by the Lieutenant-Governor, though he seems to be anxious for it.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

60. The same paper says that the information received from Beerbhoom and Burdwan regarding the sufferings of the people is really heartrending. The native press has to perform a very difficult task with regard to the present distress. It may be considered as showing a spirit of rebelliousness. But it does not care. It has to say something about the arrangements made for saving the lives of the famine-stricken, it has again something to say about the sympathy of the officers who are regarded as the incarnations of mercy, and it has further to say something about the shortsightedness of Government. The writer wants to know what has been done with the famine insurance fund, and why does Mr. Coxhead appeal to the public for relieving distress, and what relief arrangements have been done by Sir Rivers Thompson.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

61. The same paper says that the putwari cess is to be paid mainly by the ryots, but it does not understand why the ryot is made to pay. It will help neither the zemindar nor the ryot. Sir George Campbell made arrangements for the payment of the Sub-Deputy Collectors and Canoongoes from the Imperial Fund. But the present arrangement is that they will be paid from the proceeds of the proposed cess. Sir Rivers Thompson gives himself out as a friend of the ryots, but he shows his concern for them by imposing a tax of five per cent. upon them.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

62. The same paper says that the mohurirs of Civil Courts are generally men of respectable birth, and their pay is very inadequate. Rs. 20 a month, for that is their initial pay, is not quite enough for the maintenance of a family which has any pretensions to respectability. Mere increase of the pay of these mohurirs will not do. The writer thinks that the number of mohurirs in the appellate court, where their work is very small, should be reduced, and that in the Courts of the first instance increased.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

63. The same paper says that one would shudder to think of the sufferings of the people in the Bankura district from the effects of the famine. The writer is glad that the Government of Bengal has granted a sum of Rs. 20,000 to relieve the distress.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

64. A correspondent of the same paper draws the attention of the Commissioners of the Kustea Municipality to the wretched state of the roads in Jagati, which forms a part of the Municipality.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 28th, 1885.

65. The *Sanjivani*, of the 28th February, is glad to find that the Bengal Legislative Council was that day to take up the question of the Self-Government Bill.

The Self-Government Bill.

The writer thought that the Government would shelve the Bill for this year at least.

SANJIVANI.

66. The same paper praises Lord Dufferin for protesting against the attempt of the Ministry at Home to saddle the Indian treasury with the cost of the Indian Contingent serving in the Soudan. The writer is glad to learn that Lord Dufferin has succeeded in inducing the Ministry to give up the attempt.

The cost of the Indian Contingent.

SANJIVANI.

67. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor's resolution on the subject of the cruelties practised in the Presidency Jail has been universally condemned. The writer hopes that the Government of India will take the matter up and save the honour of the British administration in India.

The cruelties in the jails.

SANJIVANI.

68. The same paper says that Lord Ripon has reached his country safe. He is receiving honours in every part of England. His speech at Leeds should be written in letters of gold.

Lord Ripon.

SANJIVANI.

69. The same paper says that Nawab Ashanulla has paid Rs. 5,000 to be used for some public purpose at Comilla. A meeting was called to consider what was to be done with the money. The Chairman of the Municipality proposed that a Town Hall should be erected. At this proposal Mr. Cooke, the Magistrate, who was present, said "Town Hall! Why, to make seditious speeches! The seditious people should pay for a hall to make seditious speeches, but Nawab Ashanulla is a loyal subject." The writer says that the Government should see what Mr. Cooke has done.

Nawab Ashanulla's donation for improvement in Comilla.

SANJIVANI.

70. The same paper says that a correspondence is being carried on between the officers of Government for removing the inconveniences of railway passengers. The inconveniences are overcrowding and want of water-closets in the carriages. Unable to decide how to remove them, Government has published all the official papers in the Gazettes and asked the public to give their opinion. The Managers of Railways are unwilling to furnish carriages with water-closets on two grounds, viz., they will be obliged to build new carriages, and there will be foul smell in them. The writer says that the second objection is of no use, for people will resort to the water-closets only when urgently necessary. The writer is not disposed to believe the statements of the Managers of the East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways that there is no overcrowding on these Railways.

Inconveniences of railway journeys in India.

SANJIVANI.

71. The same paper says that Mr. Luttmann-Johnson, the Judge of the Assam Valleys, has ordered the Magistrate, who acquitted Mr. Hext charged with murdering a Mahomedan lad, to commit him to the sessions. Mr. Hext has in the meanwhile fled away, but a telegram has been despatched to Bombay to have him arrested.

Mr. Hext's case.

SANJIVANI.

72. The same paper says that the Tenancy Bill as originally framed was intended to do good both to the zemindars and to the ryots. It afforded the zemindar the facility for realizing his rent and the tenants the right of transferring his holding and security against exorbitant enhancement. But the form it has now assumed after repeated modifications alarms the writer, who is afraid that the ryots will be ruined by it. The zemindars are anxious to

The Tenancy Bill.

destroy the permanent rights of their ryots. Under these circumstances if the Bill becomes law, the zemindars will do their best to prevent the accrual of occupancy rights by shifting their tenants before the time fixed for such accrual. Instead of fixing the maximum of rent at one-fifth of the produce it has been provided that rents shall be enhanced according to the prevailing rate. The right of transferring occupancy holdings, proposed to be given to ryots in the previous Bill, has been withdrawn from this, and has been made to depend on custom. There is no possibility that those who have no occupancy right will ever get it. All that was proposed for the benefit of the ryot has been withdrawn, while facilities have been given to the zemindars for enhancement. The Collector will prepare a list of prices-current. Any increase in the prices of the produce will entitle the zemindar to enhanced rent. The writer asks Government not to ruin the ryot by passing this Bill.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 28th, 1885.

73. The same paper says that the Jail Commission has been obliged to admit that the cruel punishment inflicted by Mr. Beadon was the cause of Ratan Das' death, and still Dr. Harris says that it is not the cause of the man's death. The Commission has disbelieved him, because he could not give the real cause of the death. From this it appears that he has helped to conceal the cruel nature of the punishment. It has been clearly proved that Ratan Das's death is attributable solely to the cruel punishment inflicted under the orders of Mr. Beadon. The day Ratan was put in back hand-cuffs another prisoner named Sarafat received the same punishment. Sarafat was sent to the hospital on the fourth day with his hands greatly swollen. The back hand-cuffs brought about the swelling. This proves the statement of the correspondent of the *Statesman* to no small extent. There is no doubt that Mr. Beadon introduced a system of very cruel punishment without the orders of Government. This alone makes Mr. Beadon liable to degradation or to dismissal.

SANJIVANI.

74. The same paper is glad to learn that the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces has established 30 scholarships for the encouragement of technical education. The writer thinks that there should be one hundred such scholarships in Bengal. The scholarships given in the Dehri and Shibpore Institutions are not quite sufficient for the requirements of a large and advanced province like Bengal. The writer thinks that the standard of qualification for obtaining the scholarships should be lowered. Students passing the minor scholarship examination should be made eligible for the proposed scholarships. There are workshops in many places in Bengal where students can obtain technical education.

SANJIVANI.

75. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Midnapore says that the majority of raiyats pay a very high rate of rent. Only for a few months in the year they are well off. For the rest of the year they are obliged to borrow money at an exorbitant interest to keep their body and soul together. The Rent Commission recommended that the rate of rent should be fixed at not more than one-fifth of the value of the produce. The raiyats are so poor that more than this they cannot pay. But the Select Committee and the Government of India do not agree to the proposal. The writer asks Lord Dufferin to have the rents in every village fixed by the Collector according to the quality of the land.

SANJIVANI.

76. The same paper says that the Surgeon-General of Bengal regrets his inability to support the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction to accept Baboo Mohini Mohan Rai's liberal offer for the encouragement of native medicine on the ground that the

The native medicine and the Surgeon-General of Bengal.

encouragement of the Sanskrit system of medicine is totally opposed to the policy of Government. But the writer says that the Supreme Government allows the study of Sanskrit medicine at the Lahore University, and so it is not opposed to the policy of Government, and there can be no harm in encouraging it when a munificent individual pays for it. The Surgeon-General seems to hold views extremely one-sided and the Government also seems to accept them. Under these circumstances there is no hope for the encouragement of Sanskrit medicine. The object of medical expenditure is to cure diseases, but there are diseases in which European medicines prove to be of no avail.

77. The special famine correspondent of the same paper says that there is a total failure of crops this year at Mankar.

Famine in Burdwan.

The local annachhatra affords relief to about one hundred souls. Many have applied to Government for advances to enable them to re-excavate tanks for the purposes of irrigation.

Great distress prevails in Shola Gariya, where the crops have failed. The embankment work affords occupation to the able-bodied poor, but many who cannot work are in great want.

The outturn in Shyam Sundarpore is estimated at six annas. Some helpless women are in great want.

The outturn of crops in Soai in 1290 was not full. It is estimated at two annas this year. Many are in want.

The outturn in Poral in 1290 was eight annas, and this year it is one anna and-a-half. With the exception of five or six families people of all classes are in want. People say that unless Government gives them small advances they will not be able to cultivate their lands next year. The writer gives a long list of the names of those who are sure to die unless speedily relieved.

There is a total failure of crops this year in the large village of Kota. The condition of the Bawris, Muchis and Domes is heart-rending. There are females who are living on *sajina* leaves and on plums.

78. The same correspondent of the same paper says that the condition of the people of Dharmara in Ramporehat is really pitiable. Their emaciated bodies

Famine in Rampurhat.

show the depth of wretchedness to which they are reduced. It is absolutely necessary to give the people facility to get work.

79. The *Sádháraní*, of the 1st March, says that formerly zemindars were the real rulers of the land. Under the

Oppressive zemindars.

Nawabs zemindars were entrusted with the executive administration, the administration of justice, and the defence of the province. The encouragement of literary men was then considered to be the chief merit of the zemindars. They granted innumerable devattar, brahmattar, and lakhraj lands. They constructed many temples and roads, and established many *toles* or schools for Sanskrit learning. The law which is considered by the *Hindu Patriot* as the Magna Charta of zemindars has deprived them of their former influence. The sunset law has ruined the ancient zemindars. Many zemindaries were sold owing to this law. Those zemindaries were purchased by the amlah of law courts, the zemindar's own amlah or people serving in the commissariat and the Salt Departments. The ancient zemindars and their immediate successors were despotic indeed, but they did not regularly oppress the poor. After their disappearance the upstart and oppressive zemindars of the type of the planters made their appearance. Owing to the gross abuse of power by these zemindars, the zemindar class has been deprived of the rights conferred upon it by the law of *huptum* and *pancham*. Even after losing those rights the zemindars did not desist from oppression. They harassed the ryots by enhancing rent and by surveying lands. In

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 28th, 1885.

SANJIVANI.

SADHARANI,
March 1st, 1885.

English law courts generally he who has more money is victorious. Consequently the ryots were defeated in the law courts and were ruined. At present many zemindars do nothing but devote their lives to the worship of Englishmen. These men are the disgrace of the zemindar class. On account of these men the zemindars have lost the reverence of the people. Those who have good sense among the zemindars should not now sit silent. Owing to the agitation of some zemindars the Rent Bill is going to be passed in a very injurious form. If zemindars cannot resist the temptation of enhancing rent at this time, the province will be very much injured. Zemindars possessing good sense should conciliate the ryots by giving them makrari and mourasi pottahs. The Editor can no longer rely upon Government in this matter.

SADHARANI,
March, 1st, 1885.

80. The same paper says that it no longer believes in Government's desire to improve the condition of the ryots.

The Rent Bill.

Who is again the Government? When the proposals of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the improvement of the condition of the Bengal ryots were rejected who is the ruler? Have not the promises of four successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal any value? The writer is sorry not merely because his hopes have been disappointed, but because the Bill will injure the ryots. In most places the ryots possessed and still possess the right of transferring holdings. Government has been for the last ten years discussing the subject of confirming that right in those places in which the system of transferring holdings obtains and of introducing it in those places in which it does not obtain. The legislators are now saying that there is no necessity of legislating upon the subject. Let holdings be transferred, they say, according to custom. But they do not consider that there is a probability of the custom being injuriously affected owing to the discussions of the last year. The majority of the members of the Council have rejected the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal for conferring the right of transferring holdings upon the ryots of Bengal. This is due to the majority of the members being on the side of zemindars.

SADHARANI.

81. The same paper says that the newspapers of no country, except England and America, possess complete freedom. Though France is a republic, it

Russian newspapers.

cannot be said that the French newspapers enjoy freedom. Even in advanced Germany the press is not free. The Russian newspapers possess the least freedom of all. There is a powerful bureaucracy of noblemen in Russia like the civilian body here. Even the all-powerful Czar is led by it. Newspapers are the eyesore of all bureaucracies. Just as the civilian body dislikes the native papers the Russian bureaucracy hates the Russian papers. There is an official censor of Russian papers and books. At the order of this officer newspapers are abolished and the publication of books and periodicals is stopped. Russian newspapers are subject to such great oppression. A great merit of Russian newspapers is that unlike the newspapers of other countries, almost all of them are on the side of the poor. Even the former issues, and parts of periodicals and books the publication of which is stopped, are not allowed to be sold. The reading of many books is prohibited by law. The writer praises the perseverance and patriotism of the Russian papers under the difficulties of their situation.

SADHARANI.

82. The same paper says that the Trades Association has been guilty

The discourteousness of the Trades' Association. of discourteousness in not having apologized

to the respectable native gentlemen whom it invited for the Lieutenant-Governor's unseemly abuse of natives. The abuse of native papers by Mr. Duke in proposing the toast of the Press as the mouthpiece of the merchants in the presence of native Editors invited by the Association was against good manners. The politeness of

Europeans is sufficiently proved by this act. One of the two native Editors present at the dinner, namely, Editors of the *Indian Mirror* and the *Hindu Patriot* should have, with the permission of the Chairman, protested against the abuse of native papers, or come away. Had they shewn such self-respect the Trades' Association would have apologized to them.

SADHARANI,
March 1st, 1885.

83. The following is a translation of an article in the same paper headed, "An appeal to the Ruler of Bengal:—"

An appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor. Ruler of Bengal, we wish to address you a few words to day, and shall think ourselves happy if you will kindly listen to them. This vast dominion of Bengal is inhabited by nearly seventy millions of people. Through God's grace you are to-day the lord of these seventy millions and are governing them. Their future weal and woe therefore depend upon you. The educated class of Bengal with their ears pricked up are ever eager to hear the command or the order which may at any time issue from your lips. But why does not that which they do hear gratify them? And have you not yet been able to unravel this mystery? How surprising this is!!

The Empress of India, who loves her subjects and is to us like a mother, has made over to you this vast principality for five years. You are therefore to-day the sole satrap of Bengal. We are subjects of the Empress of India. We shall look upon you as Her Majesty's representative, respect you and revere you, offer you our love, and shall, when we see you advance to receive you with due honor and respect. You will on your part, lay aside all self-interest, self-seeking, the pride of a conqueror and partiality to your race and always remain busy in doing us good. These are our relations with you. If you will realise the secret of these relations and do your official duties accordingly, then only shall we obey you as a god and worship you with offerings of our devotion.

If fearing lest you should lose your influence over men of your own race, should cease to receive honours from the European mercantile community and should lay yourself open to the ridicule and sneers of leading Europeans in meetings assembled on the slightest cause of provocation, an intelligent man like yourself should be hesitating and should fail to wipe away the tears of tens of millions of subject people, how would you stand before God if not as a guilty person?

Will you lose the good-feeling of tens of millions of people in expectation of receiving the good-will of a few Englishmen? Alas! alas! is the moonstone to be sold for the value of glass? Why do you in this old age purposely suffer so much humiliation? Filling such a high position as you do, why do you daily lay yourself open to the taunts of the people?

Educated Bengalis have now become competent men and able to bear upon their shoulders the burden of high official duties. Why then do you feel so unwilling to grant them that right? It is exceedingly necessary for you, an old and experienced ruler, to consider that a fearful commotion is caused among the people if men are not given their legitimate rights. Considering that in the presence of all devouring. Time even the sovereign powers of Brahma and Indra are but extremely transient and insignificant, does not the thought even once cross your liberal mind that your power, which is of only five years' duration, is nothing but an atom? When the Empress of India took the administration of this country into her own hands, she freely declared that she would govern it without making any distinction between the blacks and the whites. But Her Majesty may or may not know it, certain too wise rulers like yourself have made her declaration a dead letter. In pardoning the faults and guilt of Europeans your pen

is ever composing long and ambiguous dissertations. Because the people of Bengal the other day raised a great outcry, you punished Mr. Taylor and Major Ramsay the all-powerful rulers of Nuddea. Why did you hesitate so much in the matter of the Presidency Jail?

The jail authorities are said to look upon prisoners as brutes and insects, and they do not accordingly hesitate in the least to subject them to fearful torture. If you do not properly look into these serious matters who will?

If through distress occasioned by severe famine thousands of poor people die untimely deaths, and if any District Magistrate proud of his powers becomes at any time tyrannical through perversity of judgment, you alone have the power to remedy the evil. If, in spite of your power, you do not for the purpose of preserving the dignity of your countrymen turn your eyes in that direction, it is you who will have to bear the blame for neglecting to do your duty.

SADHARANI,
March 1st, 1886.

84. The same paper says that it is eager to see the introduction of Municipalities the seed of future the system of self-government in the country, because it believes that the self-government assemblies will become Parliaments when they obtain more power. For this reason the writer was exceedingly rejoiced when the elective system was introduced in the selection of Municipal Commissioners. The writer does not think that the establishment of a separate Parliament is necessary, nor will efforts in that direction be successful. The writer is not desirous of the establishment of an Imperial Council formed of Rajahs and Nawabs, who know nothing of and care nothing for the state of the country. Efforts for the establishment of an assembly like the House of Commons should, of course, be made. When the masses have received some education and union committees have been everywhere established, the foundations of a future Indian Parliament will have been laid. After that the members of the union committees and the Municipal Commissioners will become members of the District Boards. When fit members for a Parliament will be found among the members of the District Boards, Indians should prevail upon the English Parliament and the English people to establish an Indian Parliament.

SADHARANI.

85. The same paper says that some of Mr. Beadon's numerous offences are grave. The Lieutenant-Governor instead of trying him upon these grave offences has tried him upon the petty offences. One offence of Mr. Beadon is that he used to punish those prisoners who complained to him of oppressions committed upon them by the jail officers. The duty of the Jail Superintendent is to inspect the state of the prisoners. The neglect of that duty is a serious offence. Mr. Beadon has neglected that duty. What Mr. Beadon has himself said of the state of Ramsunker Chuckerbutty shews his inefficiency. The Lieutenant-Governor has had to admit that Mr. Beadon is guilty. He has said that his guilt appears small when contrasted with the serious charges preferred against him. The writer cannot comprehend how the Lieutenant-Governor has disregarded the offences of which Mr. Beadon has been convicted. If but a part of what the prisoners who are Mr. Beadon's countrymen have said is true, Mr. Beadon's offences are serious. How can the statements of these men be disbelieved when there are proofs for them? Censure may be an adequate punishment for other men, but not for a heartless man like Mr. Beadon. Mr. Beadon's oppression, far from decreasing, will increase after this. The Lieutenant-Governor has done well in not transferring Mr. Beadon to a mofussil jail. If Mr. Beadon persists in his oppressions in the Presidency Jail his crime will be found out sooner or later. But were he transferred to a

mofussil jail his oppressions in it would never come to the notice of Government.

SADHARANT,
March 1st, 1885.

86. A correspondent of the same paper says that in the beginning of February the net income of the Bainchi Post Office was found to be Rs. 40. It being

The Postmaster of Bainchi.

so, the correspondent recommends that the pay of the able postmaster, Baboo Hiralal Halidar, who has served there for about 16 years, should be increased by Rs. 10.

SADHARANT.

87. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the *khal* on the south of the village of Haripore, in Nuddea, is in a very dirty state. The correspon-

The canal near Haripore.

dent entreats the Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat to benefit the people of Haripore by entrusting the local punchayet with the supervision of the *khal*.

88. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 1st March thanks Lord Dufferin for making a strong protest against the attempt to saddle India with the cost of the Indian

The cost of the Indian contingent.

contingent serving in the Soudan.

DACCA PRAKASH,
March 1st, 1885.

89. The same paper says that the cost of the Boundary Commission will be thrown upon the people of India. The writer thinks this to be extremely unjust, as the object of that Commission is to check the

The Cost of the Boundary Commission.

advance of Russia, which has more to do with the interests of the English people than with those of the people of India.

DACCA PRAKASH.

90. The same paper says that Sir Rivers Thompson loses no opportunity of expressing his dislike for the native press. Therefore his remarks on the native press in the Administration Report for the year 1883-84

Sir Rivers Thompson and the Native Press.

DACCA PRAKASH.

have not surprised the native editors. It can never be expected that a ruler, who can publicly declare that he has no sympathy with educated natives, who looks more to the interests of a handful of Englishmen than to those of seven millions of natives entrusted to his care, who wants to uphold the arbitrary conduct of civilians in spite of the Proclamation of 1858 should tolerate the spirit of independence in the native press, which represents the feelings of the people. It is very fortunate that during his incumbency the Viceregal throne has been occupied by men like Lord Ripon and Lord Dufferin. The writer does not understand what statements in the native newspapers are regarded by Sir Rivers as seditious. If the criticism of the acts of civilians and the advocacy of native interest are construed as disloyalty, the native papers are helpless. A free press by boldly pointing out the mistakes and vagaries of officers does a service to Government which thousands of secret spies cannot do. The writer asks Sir Rivers, who is known to be a very good Christian,—Who displayed a spirit of disloyalty during the Ilbert Bill controversy—the native Editors or the Editors of Anglo-Indian papers? Sir Rivers may not consider the support given by the native press to the Government of India on the Ilbert Bill, and the demonstrations made by it in honor of Lord Ripon, as displaying a spirit of disloyalty. But the world will differ from him in this respect. It is a matter of great regret that the ruler of Bengal does not yet recognise the usefulness of the native press. He may not do so, but the power of the press will be ever on the increase, while that of the rulers whose term of office does not exceed five or seven years will gradually decrease.

91. The same paper urges the necessity of establishing a native Defence Association. The Europeans are strong, and powerful, but they have established an Association with the object of defending their rights against weak and powerless natives, and with the help of that Association are ruining them.

The necessity of a native Defence Association.

DACCA PRAKASH.

The Defence Association has already become very powerful. Natives should no longer remain silent. If a handful of Englishmen can establish a powerful association, two hundred and fifty millions of natives should not remain indifferent. They should come forward to establish an association which will be a great source of power to them.

DACCA PRAKSH.
March 1st, 1885.

92. The writer is glad to notice that the people of Nuddea have established a District Association with the object of agitating the question of reforming the criminal procedure in this country.

DACCA PRAKSH.

93. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that the cattle-pounds in the vicinity of Salap, in Pubna, have been leased out to some very bad men. The farmers pay a commission of one anna for each animal brought to the pounds. Some wicked men depend for their livelihood on this commission. They bring horses and cows from wherever they can find them. They even steal cows at night to have them impounded.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
March 2nd, 1885.

94. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 2nd March, headed.—“Why has Laluram Panday been dismissed?”

The *Englishman* remarks that the Inspector of Police who investigated the Francis case has been dismissed from the service because he was convicted of an offence. But the dismissal had nothing to do with that case. What the *Englishman* says is true, but it is also true that if the Inspector had not reported against Francis, no charge would have been probably brought against that officer, nor would he have been dismissed when that charge was proved. But supposing that that officer was dismissed for having committed an offence, on what charge has Laluram Panday been dismissed? Excepting Mr. Weekes, no other Magistrate would have probably dismissed Laluram on such charges as were brought against him by the Superintendent of Police, Purneah. One of the offences with which Laluram was charged was that while engaged in inquiring about the charge of theft brought against Mr. Walker he had been ordered by the District Superintendent of Police to report the charge as false, an order which he did not obey. Any Magistrate other than Mr. Weekes would, under these circumstances, have condemned the Superintendent of Police for having passed such an improper and unjustifiable order, and not Laluram for disobeying it. Another charge brought against Laluram was that he had insulted Mr. Walker. On this charge he was tried and acquitted by the Sessions Judge of Mozufferpore. The case has, however, come up before the High Court, and until the decision of the Judge of Mozufferpore is set aside by it, it is not just to punish Laluram in any way on that charge. In deference to the judgment given by Mr. Brett, and as long as the case was pending in the High Court, it behoved the District Superintendent of Police to hold back his report against Laluram.

The Europeans in this country have, it would seem, gone mad. Not a few among them have thrown overboard all sense of decency, respect, and morality. Had this not been the case, the *Englishman* and others would not have written in support of the case against Laluram and of his dismissal. At least Mr. Weekes would not have through shame and fear of incurring odium himself dismissed Laluram, but would have, had he really desired to punish that man, attempted to gain his purpose by some stratagem and through the agency of some other person.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

95. The same paper contains an article on the newly-established Nuddea District Association in which the writer expresses his hope that the labours of the Association will meet with success. The sole object of the Association which is to seek redress of justice and oppression attending

criminal trials in this country, being one in which all people are equally interested, it is likely to receive the sympathy of the native community. Everybody is aware of the frequent instances of oppression resulting from the acts of police officers and from criminal trials. The criminal law is marked by race partiality, and the officials who administer that law possess almost unlimited powers. At the present time again Anglo-Indians have, as it were, gone mad, and they are led by the Lieutenant-Governor and most of his followers. There is therefore every reason to hope that the action of the inhabitants of Kisnagore in establishing this Association will not be viewed with apathy by the people of Bengal.

96. We extract the following from the same paper:—Famine is gradually becoming more and more dreadful in Burdwan. If relief is not soon granted

Famine in Burdwan.

the scenes of the Orissa famine are likely to be re-enacted. It is exceedingly surprising that the authorities are still remaining silent. We do not care to pronounce Mr. Beames incompetent, for it would indeed be difficult to discriminate between those who are competent, and those who are not. It would really be difficult to obtain competent men. Our new knight Sir Rivers Thompson once went to fight the demon of famine, but the demon is said to have disappeared at only hearing his name. Sir Rivers is now enjoying rest in his palace, the noise of mirth is drowning the wails of the afflicted. We do not understand why Government is not granting relief from the famine relief fund. Does it intend to appropriate that fund to its own uses, no matter whether or not thousands of people die of starvation? It would indeed be a matter of regret if Government could not be persuaded to grant money from that fund. We hope our worthy contemporaries will put forth united efforts to see that the tens of millions of rupees raised from the Public Works Cess instead of being wasted are spent upon saving alive even one afflicted person.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 2nd, 1885.

97. The same paper remarks that the people have been disappointed in the expectations cherished by them at the time when the Queen assumed the direct government of this country. In the time

Complaints against the management
of the Eastern Bengal Railway.

of the East Indian Company the British Government, as a disinterested judge, used to do justice between the Company on the one hand and the people of India on the other, and in Parliament also both Conservatives and Liberals laboured in that direction. But the state of things at the present time is quite different. Now the British Government stands on one side and the people of India on the other. Any complaints made by the people of India are now heard by the Government itself or its servants. In other words, the accused tries himself. In Parliament also the Liberals and Conservatives do not as formerly work in concert, and seek to do justice to the complainants. The party in power defends the accused. Consequently the people of India have fewer chances than before of obtaining justice. They have become losers to an equal extent by the transfer of the Indian railways to Government management. In connection with the Eastern Bengal Railway, for instance, there have been many cases of injustice and oppression brought to the notice of the public since that line came into the hands of Government. Great injustice has been done to the station-masters. Men drawing Rs. 20 a month are sometimes fined Rs. 25 without their being informed of the cause. The number of telegraph signallers has been reduced all over the line. The passengers also are being put to great inconvenience. The carriages are fearfully overcrowded. Even in the first class carriage attached to the mail train from Goalundo there are no water-closets. Recently certain native gentlemen travelling in a first class carriage were insulted by a European, but the European guard did not take any notice of the matter, although it was brought to his notice.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,
March 2nd, 1885.

98. The *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 2nd March, says that all high appointments have been monopolised by the English. Out of the 15 Judges of the High Court only two are natives. Out of the six Law Reporters only one is a native. The Clerk of the Crown is a native indeed, but he is a member of the Defence Association. While native barristers and vakeels are thus neglected Mr. Hyde holds two appointments. He is both a Law Reporter and the Secretary to the Board of Examiners. White natives do not get one appointment, Englishmen can get even two. This is great injustice indeed. The head of the Chief Justice certainly aches when he thinks of giving an appointment to a native.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

99. The same paper observes that though Government obtains a net profit of 60 lakhs of rupees from the Munsif's Courts, it allows these to be held in such wretched houses that many munsifs contract severe illnesses owing to that cause.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

100. The same paper supports the application made to the Chairman of the Road Cess Committee at Serampore for the extension of the Tarkeswar line to the banks of the Damudar.

MUSSALMAN BANDHU.

101. The same paper does not understand why the University authorities do not inform the candidates of the subjects they are to be examined in on each day, why the Professors of the Presidency College should be made examiners in the University, why the examiners should be anxious to show their learning in framing the question papers, and why questions beyond the range of the text-books should be put to the candidates.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

102. The same paper, after giving an instance of a native child who was attacked by a monkey, says that the disarmed natives are being killed by the attacks and bites of wild animals on the one hand, and by the blows and kicks of Europeans on the other. The writer thinks that if the Arms Act be repealed, the wild animals at least will not be able to do as much havoc as they are doing at present.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

103. The same papers learns that Mr. Miller, the Official Assignee, will go on furlough for two years. The Chief Justice gave it out as his opinion at the time of appointing the Clerk of the Crown, that there were no native barristers fit for the post. In the present instance the post should be given either to the Receiver or to one of the Law Reporters. The writer asks that it may not be given to one who already holds another appointment, for no one should be allowed to hold two appointments at the same time.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

104. The same paper says:—Under what a good government do the people of India live! How greatly are the rulers anxious to make the people happy and contented! Instances are not far to seek. If a native subject uses any weapon to ward off an attack from a wild animal, the rulers do not like it. If an armed thief enters into the house, and attempts to commit crimes which are unspeakable, the owner of the house must stand by motionless for he has no arms. The writer asks, what would the rulers themselves do if they should fall in such circumstances? If a native vents his feelings about the Arms Act or any other measure, he is at once denounced as a rebel, and so he has to conceal his feelings within his own breast. When silence reigns in every quarter the English boast that they have stamped out the rebellious spirit. The rulers of India think themselves very successful when they are feared by the people. In reality this is a worthless system of government. It is like an embankment made of sand, which

is likely to give way any moment. Russia is at the gates of India, and the English are making great preparations. But if the people of India from the Himalayas to the Comorin could come to the support of the English and beat the drums of war, the country would not have been filled with terror of Russia. Perhaps the English will think from what is written above that the writer says that the natives do not like the English. But what can the natives do by liking the English? What will they take up against the Russians? They have no arms. The rulers of India will never listen to the advice of the native press that confidence should be reposed in natives, and that they should be entrusted with arms. The writer predicts that in time of danger the wretched evil advisers who now oppose native interests will be of no use to the British Government.

105. The same says paper that the Haileybury students were the hereditary rulers of India. They had great experience in Indian affairs. Since the abolition of

The age limit in the Civil Service.

the Haileybury College, young and inexperienced men have come to rule India. This is a source of great misfortune. The seats of judgment instead of being filled by aged, experienced, and wise judges are now occupied by inexperienced students in their minority. The lowering of the standard of age in the Civil Service has indeed forcibly deprived India of the services of good Judges and Magistrates. In order to compensate for this loss, a sort of lower service, named the Indian Statutory Civil Service, has been established by well-meaning Englishmen of the present day.

106. The *Sâr Sudhânidhi*, of the 2nd March, says that even constables are as powerful as rulers in the mofussil. All

Corruption of the Police.

police officers from the constables to the inspectors are corrupt. The constables have to take bribes because they cannot defray their own expenses and support their families out of the small salaries which they receive. Being accustomed to take bribes while lower officers, the Police officers cannot give up that habit when they are promoted to inspectorships. As persons giving bribes are liable to punishment, they cannot complain against the extortions of police officers. The writer recommends that in order to put an end to corruption, Government should make arrangements for the supply of provisions to police officers, as to soldiers, at a fixed price, and appoint detectives to keep watch over police officers.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
March 2nd, 1885.

107. The *Samaya*, of the 2nd March, says that the objects with which the Tenancy Bill was introduced into

The Tenancy Bill.

the legislative Council, in 1883, will not be gained by the Bill as modified by the Select Committee. The Select Committee has made the accrual of the occupancy right dependent upon an occupation by the tenant of a holding for *twelve* years in the same *village*. By changing the word *estate* into *village*, the Select Committee has made it possible for wily zemindars to prevent the growth of that right by transferring the tenant from village to village before the completion of the twelve years. The writer thinks that the *maximum* rate of rent should be fixed by law; but the provision made by the Select Committee for enhancement would be ruinous to the ryots. It is provided that the increase in the price of food-grains will be a cause of enhancement. The Select Committee have done wrong in withdrawing the provision of fixing the *maximum* rate of rent at one-fifth of the produce. This has placed tenants without occupancy rights bound hand and foot at the tender mercy of the zemindars.

SAMAYA,
March 2nd, 1885.

108. The same paper wishes a long life to Lord Ripon. He has laid

Lord Ripon.

the people of India under an immense debt of endless gratitude. In a recent speech in England, His Lordship has declared that God has not placed India in the hands of England for the interests of the English nation, and that every

SAMAYA.

Englishman should try to the utmost of his power to raise the condition of the people of India. His speech will be regarded in a very unfavourable light by many Anglo-Indians. They will regard him as foolish—as a madman, who can think that Englishmen would come to India not for making money, not for exercising powers, but for raising the condition of the people of India, and for allowing them to speak in a tone of equality in their presence. The number of those who think in this way is not very small in India.

SAMAYA,
March 2nd, 1885.

109. The same paper complains that cases of theft have multiplied to a very great extent in the vicinity of Serampore, owing to the worthlessness and negligence of the police authorities. The constables go their round once at 11 or at 12 in the night, and then quietly sleep in some nook or corner of the village, while the people have to constantly watch their property. A large number of men have settled in the neighbourhood of the mills. When they have no employment they take to theft, and the rumour is that as they are the countrymen of the constables these do not molest them.

The police authorities ought to make an enquiry in this matter. The Arms Act has also a great deal to do with the prevalence of dacoities; as it has deprived the people of their arms, they cannot defend their life and property against the armed gang of plunderers who come at night. The Government has taken into its own hands the responsibility of guarding the lives and properties of the people. But the people are in constant dread of the dacoits.

SAMAYA

110. The same paper is glad to hear that Mr. Edgar will officiate as Secretary to the Government of Bengal when Mr. Macaulay goes on furlough.

SAMAYA.

111. The same paper is sorry to hear that Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Barrister-at-Law, has proposed to increase the fee for the B. L. examination. The Syndicate may agree to the proposal, but the Senate and the public will never agree to it.

SAMAYA

112. The same paper is sorry to hear that Mr. Cotton is going on leave. Mr. Cotton is an ornament of the Civil Service. India would have assumed a very different aspect had there been many Cottons in the India Civil Service.

SAMAYA.

113. The same paper thinks that the *amla* of the mofussil courts will fare better from this time, as Mr. Beames has been appointed to the Commission to enquire into the question of their remuneration. Mr. Broughton knows much on the subject, and it is his exertions that have brought about the appointment of this Commission. It would be well to appoint him President of the Commission.

SAMAYA.

114. The same paper hears a report that Mr. Baker was severely beaten by a native youth at Tarakesvara on the occasion of the Sivaratri festival. The writer cannot vouch for the truth of this report; but it does not appear to be very strange. Mr. Baker is very young and he should not have been entrusted with responsible duties. He has several times given proofs of his worthlessness. He would have been dismissed by this time had he not been the son of a big father.

SAMAYA.

115. The same paper is glad to notice that some of the native theatres are inspired with the best of motives, viz., that of giving one night's income for the benefit of the sufferers from famine in Burdwan. One of them invited Lord

Dufferin to be present at the theatre on the benefit night; but His Lordship has told the manager to apply to the Lieutenant-Governor first. The writer does not understand why it should be so. His Lordship condescends to attend European theatres and circuses. If he comes to the theatre on that night it will be crowded with spectators, and all the fees will be given away in aid of the famine-stricken people in Burdwan.

116. The same paper hears that some officers are advising Government to increase the salt duties in order to get an increase of revenue. But the writer thinks

SAMAYA.

The proposed increase in the salt tax. that a tax of two pice per rupee on salaries above 200 rupees per month is likely to bring a larger sum to the treasury, while the increase in the salt duties, though it will press hard on the poor, will not bring many lakhs a year.

117. The same paper complains of the predominance of the official element in the Bengal Legislative Council.

SAMAYA.

The Bengal Legislative Council. In the division on the subject of the introduction of the Putwari Bill, the predominance of this element was painfully apparent. The Lieutenant-Governor wants to bring the canoongoes and putwaris—those leeches that suck the life-blood of both zemindars and ryots—directly under the Government. These leeches, if they can obtain the support of the Government, will ruin all classes of men interested in the management and cultivation of land.

118. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 2nd March, says that never perhaps was such a welcome reception accorded to any Viceroy of India in England as has been accorded to Lord Ripon.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1885.

119. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has been obliged to admit that Mr. Beadon has been guilty of certain offences. But his tenderness towards Englishmen has made him shrink from punishing the Superintendent of the Presidency Jail. The Lieutenant-Governor's advocacy of the cause of Mr. Beadon while sitting in judgment upon him is very blameworthy. Such conduct has made him appear before the bar of public opinion as guilty of partiality. He will never be able to clear himself of that charge. The Lieutenant-Governor has said at the very outset of his resolution:—"The Lieutenant-Governor is very glad to find that although a certain substratum of fact underlies some of these statements, by far the greater number of them are either absolutely false or grossly exaggerated." With reference to back hand-cuffing, the Lieutenant-Governor has admitted that Mr. Beadon introduced that illegal system of torture, but has exculpated him by saying that the torture was not so horrible as has been stated. No just judge would have done so. The writer is unable to defend the Lieutenant-Governor from the charge of partiality which the public is bringing against him. The Lieutenant-Governor has been obliged to admit that the torture inflicted by Mr. Beadon upon the prisoner Rattan Dass helped to cause his death. Still the Lieutenant-Governor "acquits Mr. Beadon of any intentional cruelty." But the whole country refuses to subscribe to that opinion. The whole country is convinced that Mr. Beadon is responsible for the death of Rattan, and that he would be punished for it if tried before a competent court. The correspondent of the *Statesman* has told Government to go to court. The whole country, too, says so. The Lieutenant-Governor should clear himself of blame. The prisoner Sharfat was half dead from the torture which caused the death of Rattan. The Lieutenant Governor has said:—"His (Sharfat's) arm was swollen and had to be punctured. This seems to have been caused by the punishment, but it is not true that he was

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

half dead, and he has since recovered." The Lieutenant-Governor's reasoning is that if the man had died it would have been proved that he was half dead, but when he has recovered he was not surely half dead. The people can never respect the decision of the Judge who reasons in this way. With reference to the charge against Mr. Beadon that whenever prisoners are flogged a very high number of stripes is administered, the Lieutenant-Governor has said that the highest limit of stripes is 30, and the stripes are to be administered on the buttocks. Consequently it is not probable that a prisoner was flogged with 200 stripes. Cannot 200 stripes, asks the writer, be administered upon the buttocks? The charge against Mr. Beadon is also not that the 200 stripes were administered at once. The stripes might have been administered on seven different occasions. The food provided for prisoners is very coarse. Owing to the fault of the jail officers, it becomes still more nasty. Many persons have seen in many jails that some prisoners have to starve completely and others obtain only insufficient food. The writer has heard from many prisoners in the Presidency Jail that the food given to prisoners is very nasty. He has heard this also from a former officer in the Presidency Jail. It has been proved that prisoners in the Presidency Jail have been made to work beyond the hours fixed in the Jail Code. Sir Rivers Thompson has been obliged to admit that Mr. Beadon did not inform the Inspector-General of Jails of his breaking the rule in the Jail Code in this manner. It has also been proved that the prisoners were not allowed to complain to Mr. Beadon. Though the Lieutenant-Governor has been obliged to admit all the offences with which Mr. Beadon was charged, he has not punished him. He has also exculpated the Inspector-General of Jails on the ground that he is in charge of many jails. Had such oppressions been committed in any prison in England or the colonies, a great agitation would have been made, the subject would have been discussed in Parliament, and the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor would have run no small risk. Such oppressions are tolerated only in India. Sir Rivers Thompson has pleaded very well in order to save Mr. Beadon. After admitting all the offences of Mr. Beadon he has said:—"Here is an officer who in the discharge of an onerous and responsible duty has acted, it may be admitted, upon the extreme views of a disciplinarian. But the health of the prisoners has not suffered under his administration. There has been no increase of mortality. Discipline has improved, &c., &c." The Lieutenant-Governor seems to be of opinion that if one or two prisoners die from the effects of torture it cannot be said that the mortality has increased, and such torture may be allowed if it has the effect of preventing unruliness on the part of other prisoners. Sir Rivers Thompson has himself admitted that the offences of Mr. Beadon are "grave and serious." Nor has he been able to deny that grave punishment should be awarded for such grave offences. That he has not done so is due to the fault of the press. The press charged Mr. Beadon with graver offences than have been proved by the enquiries of the Jail Commission. For this reason the Lieutenant-Governor has not punished Mr. Beadon. Had Mr. Beadon been charged only with the offences which have been proved the Lieutenant-Governor would have punished him. This is truly justice. Had the Lieutenant-Governor been a judge he would have surely decided that the charge of grievous hurt cannot stand in the case of a person who has been charged with murder and that the charge of cheating cannot stand in the case of a person who has been charged with forgery. Mr. Harris, the Joint-Magistrate of Dacca, would be a fit successor of Sir Rivers Thompson. Indeed Mr. Beadon has been clearly proved guilty of all the offences, and he would have been severely punished in any other country. It is a great proof of the forbearance of the Lieutenant-Governor that he has not increased the salary

of Mr. Beadon owing to his anger with the press. The writer is sorry at the Lieutenant-Governor's decision, but he is not surprised at it.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1885.

120. The same paper says that rents have been arbitrarily enhanced in every khas mehal. Government has long been in possession of a mehal in Durbhunga. Up to 1872, when the Government stud in that place was abolished, the mehal was under the successive superintendents of the stud. Up to that time the ryots had to cultivate oat for the horses in one-fourth of the whole quantity of land and supply the oat thus cultivated to Government at a fixed price. Since 1872, Government has tried to enhance rent in the mehal. In 1876 the rent was enhanced, but as due notice of the enhancement had not been given, Government was defeated. In 1881, rent was enhanced by four times in the mehal. The poor ryots instituted suits in the Munsiff's Court. The Munsiff decided in their favour, but his decision was reversed by the Judge of Patna. The ryots appealed to the High Court. Justices Mitter and Trevelyan have reversed the decision of the Judge of Patna, but have not given a final decision in the case. Government is saying that the superintendent forcibly enhanced rent in 1857, and consequently Government can enhance rent again. The Judges of the High Court have said that if Government can prove that rent was enhanced in 1857 they will see if Government can enhance rent. The writer knows that Government will not easily give up its point. Government is itself admitting that one of its high officers forcibly compelled 600 ignorant ryots to sign an English deed for enhancing rent in the mehal. Had any private zemindar done so, and admitted it in court, would not have Government transported him?

Enhancement of rent in the khas mehals in Durbhunga.

121. The same paper says that the arguments by which Mr. Cotton has proved the fault of the Enquiry Commission are irrefutable. Mr. Cotton has clearly shown that the Municipal Commissioners have effected extraordinary improvements during the last eight years. But Sir Rivers Thompson, who is the leader of the Payne and Cunningham Company, will not be convinced by these arguments. He is biassed against the Municipality. The writer clearly sees that he will shew that his pretensions about being in favour of the system of self-government are false and will displease the whole country by again attacking the chief self-government assembly in the province.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

122. The same paper says that the Cunningham Company have all along pretended that they are anxious on account of the poor inhabitants of the town. The Lieutenant-Governor too pretended to appoint the Enquiry Commission owing to his desire to benefit them. Yet the evidence of native witnesses as to the state of the native quarter formerly and at present was not taken by the Commission, but only a few Anglo-Indians who are hostile to the system of self-government were examined. So much for the love of justice of Mr. Beverley. Mr. Cotton's proposal regarding the examination of native witnesses was rejected by Mr. Beverley and Dr. Lidderdale. This has shewn to the public the feelings of the Commission. But the writer is aware that nothing will make Sir Rivers Thompson change his adverse opinion. If the Lieutenant-Governor means to shew respect to justice and not to increase the scandal which is already sufficient, he should not proceed further.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

123. The same paper says that the bringing of every English soldier to India costs £100. If Eurasians and natives are appointed as soldiers this waste of money may be prevented. Government will not have also to pay such

Natives and Eurasians in the Army.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

a high salary to Eurasian and native soldiers as to English soldiers. The writer hopes that Eurasians who wish to benefit their race will urge their claims as well as those of other Indians upon Government.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1885.

124. The same paper says that the *St. James's Gazette* has tried to prove by a conversation between Lord Randolph Churchill and Holkar which is purely imaginary that the native princes are all disaffected, and that they are ready to rebel upon the arrival of a favourable opportunity. The editor does not believe that an English editor does not see that displeasing the Indian princes and people at a time when the English are beset with dangers on all sides may be attended with very serious results. The editor believes that the *St. James's Gazette* and its followers will be glad if a rebellion breaks out in India. There are such men among Anglo-Indians also. Lord Dufferin should check these men. Otherwise the peace of the country may be disturbed some day or other.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

125. The same paper says that like Burdwan, Bankoora, Beerbhoom and Moorshedabad also are suffering from distress. The distress will be more severe two or three months afterwards. The Magistrates of these districts should ask help from the public like Mr. Coxhead. The public too should subscribe money for the relief of the distress. Government should open relief works in these places as in Burdwan. Lord Lytton spent the proceeds of the license-tax, which was imposed upon the district understanding that the proceeds thereof would be spent upon the relief of distress in the country, upon the Afghan War. Lord Ripon spent the proceeds of that tax partly upon the liquidation of debts and partly upon the construction of public works calculated to prevent famines. The people will be greatly benefited if Government spends money upon relief works.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

126. The same paper says that it is probable that the Rent Bill will be discussed in Parliament. Every one here, the zemindars, the middlemen, the ryots, are objecting to the Bill. Under these circumstances Government should not pass it into law merely to maintain its point.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

127. The same paper says that the able Deputy Inspector of Schools, Dacca, Baboo Tarak Nath Sen, should be appointed Assistant Inspector of Schools in the place of Baboo Dina Nath Sen, who it is rumoured will be appointed Inspector of Schools, Chittagong.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 2nd, 1885.

128. The *Som Prakash*, of the 2nd March, learns that a meeting was held in Kishnagore for the establishment of a Native Defence Association. The writer says that efforts should be made to increase the influence of natives by holding such meetings, all over the country. The number of Europeans in India is increasing more and more day by day. Owing to the conflicting interests of many races the administration of India is becoming more and more complex. Consequently the race which will make no effort for protecting its interests now will be a great loser. Defence Associations should be established in different places and a Central Association should be established in Calcutta. The money which Baboo Surendro Nath Banerjea is collecting for the National Fund should be the capital of these Defence Associations.

SOM PRAKASH.

129. The same paper, referring to Government's grant of Rs. 20,000 for the relief of the distress in Burdwan, says that it is really glad at this good action of Sir Rivers Thompson.

SOM PRASAD.
March 2nd, 1885.

130. The same paper says that the European Superintendent of the bridge that is being constructed in Hooghly grossly abused a respectable native, threw him violently down by pushing him by the neck, and slapped him on the face.

Maltreatment of a respectable native by the European Superintendent of the new Hooghly bridge.

SOM PRASAD.

131. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has tried his best to save Mr. Beadon. The writer is surprised and grieved at Mr. Beadon's escape with a light censure after committing such grave offences. It is true that all the charges against Mr. Beadon in the *Statesman* have not been clearly proved. But it could not be expected that they would be proved by such an enquiry. Yet the offences that have been proved are not insignificant. The publication of the news of such oppressions in free England or America would have been attended with great agitation and serious results. But as in Bengal the ruler can do what he pleases, Mr. Beadon has escaped with a light censure. Is a light censure the adequate punishment for him who introduced the system of back hand-cuffing in defiance of the Jail Code, whose heart was not touched by the cries of agony of the prisoners, who was not grieved in the least upon seeing the utmost wretchedness of humanity, and who turned a deaf ear to the tales of distress of the prisoners? A ruler of the type of Sir Rivers Thompson may think this an adequate punishment for the offences of Mr. Beadon, but the people do not. The writer does not think that the Lieutenant-Governor has preserved the dignity of his office in severely condemning the *Statesman*. Many oppressions have been brought to light owing to the letters in the *Statesman*. Censure instead of thanks for such a service is to be expected only from a civilian ruler. The correspondent of the *Statesman* has undertaken to prove the charges preferred by him in a law court. The writer clearly sees that if Government does not allow him an opportunity to do so, no one will have any doubt about Mr. Beadon's guilt.

The Lieutenant-Governor and the cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

SOM PRASAD.

132. The same paper says that the day on which Lord Dufferin declared that he would water the trees planted by his predecessors, and that he would try to develop the system of self-government, all fears in the Editor's mind were dispelled and confidence was awakened. His Excellency's protest against the saddling of India with the charges of the Indian contingent that is being sent to Egypt has shewn that Lord Dufferin is sincere, and the loss which India has suffered by the departure of Lord Ripon will be compensated for by Lord Dufferin. The writer does not think that His Excellency's protest will be of any avail, but he has entitled himself to the gratitude of India by that action. The writer hopes that he may always be able to praise Lord Dufferin for his acts.

Lord Dufferin.

SOM PRASAD.

133. The same paper sees many defects in the Rent Bill as amended by the Select Committee. The Bill is characterized by partiality, nor will the purpose for which the Bill has been prepared be served by it. It will also lead to the increase of litigation and to the expenditure of money on the part of both zemindars and ryots. Almost the whole of the Bill is full of provisions for the fixing and protection of the rights of the ryot, and for the improvement of his condition. This clearly proves that the majority of the members of the Council are in favour of the ryot. The Bill does not contain any provision for facilitating the realization of rent by the zemindar. Had the Select Committee provided for a summary trial of the rent suits, zemindars would have been in some degree benefited. The provision for the distraint of crops for facilitating the realization of rent will prove of no use. Zemindars will not be able to do anything

The Rent Bill.

independently. The registration of tenures, which has been proposed, will be very costly. Government should make such a law as will benefit both ryots and zemindars. In order that such a law may be made, Government should first ascertain the quality of the different lands in Bengal and Behar, and the income that can be derived from each of these, and after calculating the expenses of cultivation and fixing the profit of the zemindar, the ryot, and Government fix a rate of rent. It should be ruled that all classes of ryots will have to pay the same rate of rent and that he who will charge a higher rate will be punished. It should also be ruled that the ryot who will not pay rent in due time will lose the privilege of a fixed rate of rent. Such a law would prove beneficial both to ryots and to zemindars.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 2nd 1885.

134. The same paper says that those who are in favour of the government of India by brute force and who are anxious only about the protection of their selfish interests may learn much from Lord Ripon's speech in Leeds, in which he has given signal proof of his noble-heartedness and far-sightedness. Generous treatment and impartiality are the fundamental principles which should be observed in the administration of India if the English Government wants to attach Indians to it. History clearly shews that England did not conquer India solely by her prowess. The establishment of British rule in India is mainly due to the assistance rendered by the Indians. The English Government is bound in duty to treat in a generous manner those who have delivered their country to it. India enjoys peace and tranquility, and her condition has been considerably improved under British rule. For this reason Indians have always been partial to British rule. The English Government should generously treat those who are so loyal to it.

SOM PRAKASH.

135. The same paper says that whenever the Lieutenant-Governor sets out on a tour, it hopes that he will benefit the province by inspecting its state, but it is always disappointed. To conclude from the use of cheap umbrellas by a few cultivators that the ryots have become well-to-do is very mischievous. That the cultivators are not well-to-do is proved by the occurrence of famine upon the failure of crops for a single year. Because the rulers know nothing of the internal state of the country, and do not take sufficient trouble to know it, they are surprised by the distress in the province. The ryots are not so well-to-do as the officials suppose them to be. The ryots not only suffer from scarcity of food, but also in many villages from that of water.

SOM PRAKASH.

136. The Ranaghat correspondent of the same paper says that the state of the Ranaghat Municipality is becoming worse and worse day by day. No business but the collection of taxes is done. The correspondent approves of the election of Babu Surendro Nath Pal Chowdry, who is a man of education and liberal views, and who is also a zemindar of that place, as Chairman, but does not approve of the election of Babu Ram Gopal Munsii, who though an able man is not a resident of that place, as Vice-Chairman. It would have been better if either Babu Juggesvar Ghose or Babu Rakhal Chunder Mullick had been elect Vice-Chairman.

SURABHI,
March 3rd, 1885.

137. The *Surabhi*, of the 3rd March, says that every Bengali should be grateful to Mr. Cotton for his warmly espousing the cause of the rate-payers of Calcutta. The writer is glad that the people of Calcutta intend to hold meetings in different places for giving him thanks.

138. The same paper says that it is a very hopeful sign that Lords Northbrook, Derby, and Kimberley and Sir Vernon Harcourt completely approved of the policy adopted by Lord Ripon in the government of India. Lord Northbrook said that Lord Ripon's policy was fully approved by the Liberal party. The more the number of Englishmen favourable to Lord Ripon's policy increases, the better will India be governed.

SURABHI.

139. The same paper says that from the day on which the Anglo-Indian Defence Association was established it has become necessary to establish a native Defence Association.

SURABHI.

140. The same paper says that there can be no objection to the showing of honour to Sir James Fergusson on the eve of his departure by his intimate friends. But if the general public of Bombay shew honour to him, their enthusiasm for Lord Ripon will have no weight.

SURABHI.

141. The same paper says that so long as all persons in the country do not know their duty, and so long as they do not pay regard to the welfare of the country, it will not improve. Probably there was never before a Governor so hostile to natives as Sir Rivers Thompson. Still rich Bengalis are eager to entertain him in their houses.

SURABHI.

142. The same paper learns from a reliable source that the inhabitants of Champatollah, Dighira, Ansara Banamali-pore, Jujur, Ijatpore, Basantapore, Palasdanga, Chaltakonda, Bhoorkura and Bheetgayer under Jaypore outpost in the Bishnupore subdivision are now suffering from scarcity of food owing to either total failure of crops or bad harvest during the last four years. Unable to find any work, the labourers of those villages have abandoned their wives and children and gone elsewhere. Crops have grown well in many places of the subdivision, but here and there in two, three, four or more villages crops have not at all been grown. These villages certainly require relief even though crops have grown well in the majority of villages in the subdivision. The Deputy Magistrate of Bishnupore will do well to enquire about the distress.

SURABHI.

143. The same paper says that in the last issue of the *India Gazette* a correspondence has been published regarding the arrangements that have been made for the convenience of railway passengers. It has been stated that arrangements have been made for facilitating the purchase of tickets by passengers. This is not true. The arrangements for the purchase of tickets by third class passengers even in the Howrah station are not convenient for the passengers. In some stations when there is a crowd, women pay men 1 or even 2 rupees for purchasing tickets for them. It is not also true that good arrangements have been made for the supply of drinking water to passengers. Partiality is also shewn to Europeans in the supply of water. Filtered water is supplied to Europeans alone. It is not also true that a special compartment is assigned in every train for native women. In most trains no such accommodation is provided. If any respectable native woman wants to have such accommodation, she has to request the station-master for that purpose. The station-master refuses to give such accommodation in some trains. With reference to the proposal made by Government for water-closets in third class carriages, the railway authorities have said that it will be very difficult to carry it out, inasmuch as the passengers will make the carriages unhealthy by making the water-closets very dirty. The writer says that there will be no apprehension for such unhealthiness if a larger number of mehters and

SURABHI.

bhistees are employed in every station. The arrangements for making the trains stop for a longer time than at present at the stations in which there are latrines will not at all conduce to the convenience of the passengers. If the Railway Companies grudge to spend money for the convenience of the passengers nothing can be done. The railway authorities should consider that the majority of the passengers are natives, and that the majority of the native passengers travel in the third class. It being so, the Railway Companies should make arrangements for the convenience of these passengers.

SURABHI,
March 3rd, 1885.

144. The same paper says that Mr. Walker wants to convince the world that he has prosecuted Laluram Panday with the object of protecting the freedom and rights of individuals. The Defence Association has begun to oppress natives under the pretext of protecting the interests of Englishmen. The law also is so elastic that a person can be harassed by twisting it any way one pleases. Owing to the Defence Association and the elasticity of the law Laluram has been ruined. Had he been tried in Purneah instead of being tried before Mr. Brett, he would have rotted in jail. Natives are now really in a very perilous situation. There is now not only a fight with law, but also a fight between Englishmen and natives. This fight is more terrible than a bloody war. Is there no means of natives being saved from this danger?

The Defence Association.

SURABHI.

145. A correspondent of the same paper says that the newspapers are eager to pick out holes in the conduct of Sir Rivers Thompson, and are blind to his merits. He does not object to the endeavour which is being made by many Editors to remove him from the country. Whatever may be the Lieutenant-Governor's faults he cannot be blamed as being indifferent to the distress in the province. The Lieutenant-Governor replied by telegraph to the telegrams about the distress sent to him by the Editor of the *Sanjivani* and the Indian Association and after that he himself went to Beerbhoom to enquire about the distress. He has granted Rs. 20,000 for the relief of the distress. Besides that he has paid Rs. 500 from his own pocket.

Newspapers and the Lieutenant-Governor.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 3rd, 1885.

146. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 3rd March, says that in Burdwan paddy is the only staple crop. If the paddy crop fails, the cultivator is ruined, and his ruin involves that of the petty talukdar, and of all the petty traders in his village. Under these circumstances steps should be taken both by the Government and the zemindars to prevent the failure of the crop. And the best means of doing this is by excavating or re-excavating tanks and canals for the purpose of irrigation. It will give occupation to the sufferers at the present moment, and go a great way to prevent famines in the future.

How to prevent famine.

If Government wants to relieve the cultivators, it should make tuccavi advances. All respectable cultivators agree in saying that they are quite ready to accept loans on any terms in order that they may live till the next harvest.

The poorer classes should not be compelled to go to a great distance leaving their families behind in order to obtain same occupation. If the Government is anxious to relieve these poor men it should provide them with work near at hand, and the best way of doing that would be to allot a large sum from the Road Cess Funds for the improvement of village roads.

The writer also thinks that the rules for admission into the anna-chhatras established by Government should be relaxed a little.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

147. The same paper thinks that the increase of drunkenness in Bengal is to be attributed to the contact with the English nation and to the temptations

Increase of drunkenness.

offered by such contact. As an instance of this it has been shown that the labourers have taken to the habit of drinking, and that drunkenness has increased more in the vicinities of cities than in villages. The writer agrees with Baboo Krisnavihari Sen, when he says that English education by making men indifferent to religion has increased drunkenness amongst the educated classes.

148. The same paper is glad to find that the non-official members of the Bengal Legislative Council, though in a minority, showed a bold front in opposing the Patwari Bill. BURDWAN SANJIVANI.
March 3rd, 1885.

The Patwari Bill. The Bill is calculated to do good neither to the zemindar nor to the ryot. Government does not understand this, because it does not know the real state of things in the mofussil. The writer is very glad to find that Lala Banvihari Kapur had the courage to oppose a favourite measure of Government on the very first day he joined the Council.

149. The special famine correspondent of the same paper writing from Purana Gram in Bud-Bud gives the result of a house-to-house enquiry made by him. BURDWAN SANJIVANI.
Famine in Bud-Bud. There are 400 families in the village. The population is estimated at 1,000. Mussulmans form the bulk of the population. But neither these Mussulmans nor the high caste Hindus consent to take rice in a public annachhattra. They think it beneath their dignity to resort to such places. They have represented this matter to the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the relief works.

150. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains of the ravages committed by wild boars and wolves at Balishai, in the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district. Sixteen persons have recently fallen victims to the bites of rabid jackals in that place. BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

151. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 3rd March, is glad that through the good offices of Lord Dufferin India will not have to bear the cost of the Indian Contingent serving in the Soudan. SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA
March 3rd, 1885.
The cost of the Indian contingent.

152. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 4th March, is glad that the Lieutenant-Governor has appointed Syud Amir Hossein as Presidency Magistrate in the place of Baboo Biharilal Gupta. The Editor considers this a just action. URDU GUIDE,
March 4th, 1885.
Syud Amir Hossein.

153. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 4th March, says that the Central Asian question will not be settled, without costing a war, and in the case of war the Russians are sure to be worsted. The British Government will of course display all its powers in the impending war. But what are the duties of the natives at this juncture? The native Princes have derived the greatest benefit from English rule, and they should be always ready, whether invited or not, to lend their services to their benefactors. The people of British India too should be prepared to help the English even with their lives. They should all without distinction of race, colour, or creed enrol themselves in the volunteer corps. They should instantly apply for permission to become volunteers and to learn the art of fighting. SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
March 4th, 1885.
The duties of the natives.

154. The *Samvád Purnachandrodaya*, of the 4th March, says that the Defence Association is gradually becoming so powerful that it will soon take the position of the Government of India. The exertions of the Association in cases like those of Laluram Panday confirm this impression. Unless that Association can be done away with, it will do a great mischief. Bengalis SAMVAD
PURNACHANDRODAYA,
March 4th, 1885.
The Defence Association.

therefore should try their best to bring about the abolition of this Association.

BANGABASI,
March 7th, 1885.

155. The *Bangabási*, of the 7th March, says that the *Pioneer*, the organ of the Government, pooh-poohs the idea of a famine in Bankura. But, says the writer, the state of things is really deplorable in that district and men have actually died of starvation. The opening of annachhatras has become absolutely necessary.

Pioneer on the famine in Bankura.

BANGABASI.

156. Anent the appearance of seditious placards in every station of the East Indian Railway, the same paper remarks that the spies of the Mahdi, even if they have come to India, will not be able to shake the loyalty of the Mahomedan population. Government should do its best to see that Englishmen do not show their ill-feeling towards Mahomedans. The writer thinks that the placards are posted not by the Mahomedans but by their enemies.

Seditious placards.

BANGABASI.

157. The same paper thanks Sir Rivers Thompson for bringing about the removal of Mr. Beames from Burdwan. He has been appointed to a Commission to enquire into the question of the remuneration of the amla of the mofussil courts. It is very well to have him transferred from the famine districts. Sir Rivers has in this matter indirectly taken the advice of the native press. The writer thinks that Mr. Larminie, who has an intimate knowledge of Burdwan, should be appointed the Commissioner of Burdwan during the time of the distress.

The transfer of Mr. Beames.

BANGABASI.

158. The same paper says that Mr. Lethbridge considers the establishment of the Statutory Civil Service as a great service done to India by Lord Lytton. The writer does not understand how the establishment of that service has in any way benefited the people of India.

The Statutory Civil Service.

BANGABASI.

159. Baboo Krishna Chandra Banerji, the special famine correspondent of the same paper, says that the famine is gradually assuming gigantic proportions in Beerbhoom. People will soon die of starvation. But the district authorities are perfectly indifferent to this terrible state of things. Sir Rivers Thompson visited Beerbhoom before the autumn holidays, when there was a great apprehension of famine. The writer does not understand what enquiries His Honor made in the matter, but he is sure that those enquiries were not properly conducted. The writer was there for five days only. But the result of his enquiries during this short time has inspired him with great apprehensions. People have grown lean and miserable for want of food. They are gradually losing their vital powers. Unless arrangements are made for granting speedy relief, people will have to hear of deaths from starvation. The writer appeals to the Lieutenant-Governor and the Collector of Beerbhoom to bestir themselves in this matter, which concerns the life and death of the people placed under their charge.

Famine in Beerbhoom.

In the year 1289 the yield of the fields in Nime, and in the neighbouring villages was two annas, and in the year 1290 it was eight annas. The yield is almost nothing this year. The distress of the lower and the middle class people has commenced from July last. Lakuri Dom's wife and Rameswar Dom have died of starvation. The writer gives a list of those who are in great want. Baboo Akil Chandra Mandal applied in the month of Kartic to the Magistrate of the district for taccavi advances to the extent of Rs. 2,000 on the security of real property valued at Rs. 7,000, to enable him to excavate tanks for irrigation and for drinking purposes. But he has not received the money yet.

160. The *Samvād Bahikā*, of the 12th February, is glad to find that the active export of rice from the Balasore port has brought large sums of money

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
Feb. 12th, 1885.

Export of rice from Balasore.

within the reach of those well-to-do cultivators who had good stores of paddy in their granaries.

161. The same paper finds fault with the constitution of the Uriya School Text-book Sub-Committee, which was

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

The Uriya School-book Sub-Committee.

established at Cuttack a few weeks ago under the orders of Government. It is of opinion that officers belonging to the Education Department, who are known to be interested in the use and sale of vernacular school books in Orissa, should not be allowed to sit on the Sub-Committee. It further remarks that only men of unbiassed judgment and good scholarship should have been appointed as members of the Sub-Committee.

162. In another article of the same paper occurs an account of the proceedings of that sitting of the Balasore Municipality, in which the Chairman and

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

The Balasore Municipality.

Vice-Chairman for that Municipality were elected. It remarks that the Municipal Commissioners elected the best men available among them, and their action has met with general approbation.

163. The publication of an article, defending the action of the educational officers in Orissa, regarding the

The Orissa School-book Committee.

selection and use of vernacular school-books in that province, in the *Shikhyabundhu*, a small monthly magazine, intended for Uriya-knowing teachers of schools, has called forth severe comments in the columns of the *Samvād Bahikā* and the *Utkal Dīpikā*, which have assumed an attitude of opposition to the Education Department in Orissa.

164. Referring to the resolution of Government on the "appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service," the

UTKAL DARPAN,
Feb. 14th, 1885.

The Subordinate Executive Service.

Utkul Dīpikā, of the 14th February, remarks that since Government want to fill the vacancies in the higher grades of the Subordinate Executive Service by taking into consideration other things besides success of the candidates in the competitive examination instituted for the purpose, it would be a great encouragement to the natives of Orissa, which is decidedly a backward province, if some of them were exempted from the above examination and appointed to posts in that service on the grounds of general fitness, intelligence, and office experience.

165. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 17th February, is greatly dissatisfied with the proceedings of the Irrigation Commission that sat at Cuttack a few weeks ago.

UTKAL DARPAN.

The Irrigation Commission.

In its opinion the Commission should have remained in Orissa for a longer period and examined witnesses from the oppressed parts of that province with greater care.

166. After giving a short account of the proceedings of the first meeting of the elective Municipality of Cuttack, the *Sebaka*, of the 18th February, goes on to

SEBAKA,
Feb. 18th, 1885.

The Cuttack Municipality.

make the following remarks:—

"The administration of a fund, amounting to nearly Rs. 30,000, may, at the first sight, appear to be a small affair, and not worth the attention that is generally paid to it; but the practical applicability of the principle of local self-government involved in the matter has commended it to the notice of those who want to see their countrymen trained up in the art of constitutional government." It then approves of the nominations to the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairman made by the Municipal Committee.

SEBAKA
Feb. 19th, 1885.

167. In another column of the same paper occur the following lines:—

The Police Superintendent, Balasore.

“Our contemporaries of the *Utkal Darpan* and the *Samvād Bāhikā* have reported in their columns that the Police Superintendent of Balasore unlawfully interfered with a Brahmo Sankirtan party, which had obtained his written permission to proceed through the public streets of that town. This has greatly discouraged and offended the Brahmo community of Balasore. We hope this will not escape the notice of our Commissioner Mr. Metcalfe, whom we regard to constitute an official enquiry into the subject.”

SEBAKA.

The Rajah of Dhenkanal.

168. In an article on travel, the same paper advises the young Raja of Dhenkanal to proceed on a tour to the United Kingdom and Europe. As the Raja will complete the period of his minority after a year or two, the paper thinks that this is the best time for him to complete his education by a travel in foreign countries. The cost of the proposed journey not being very large, it hopes that the guardians of the Raja and the authorities under whom they work will agree to the proposal.

SEBAKA.

169. The same paper regrets that the Indian Government has reduced the salute of the Maharajah of Travancore. The salute of 21 guns to 19, generally offered to the Maharajah of Travancore. It, however, hopes that the Supreme Government will find out their mistake, and hesitate to offend an important Chief residing under the British Protectorate.

SEBAKA.

The Mahomedans of Orissa.

170. In another paragraph the same paper urges the Mahomedans of Orissa to shake off their long-standing superstitions, and at once to avail themselves of the advantages of a liberal and enlightened education, imparted in English schools and colleges.

SEBAKA.

171. The same paper regrets to learn that the Madras Government did not choose to be guided by the results of the Statutory Civil Service examination in the selection of candidates for appointment to vacancies that occurred in the Civil Service of that province. The paper thinks that the reported action of the Madras Government, if true, was grossly unjust.

SEBAKA.

Urdu versus Kaithi in Behar.

172. The same paper advises His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal not to listen to the representations of those of the Behar officers, who want to revive the use of the Urdu language in the public courts of that province. The paper thinks that the use of the Kaithi dialect has once for all closed the controversy on the subject, and that it would be extremely improper to revive the question at so late an hour.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 7th March 1885.